



Office of Senator Kayse Jama

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Press Contact:

Tess Seger, Tess.Seger@oregonlegislature.gov

Senate Democrats Boost City and County Efforts to Build More Affordable Middle Housing

SALEM, Ore - Today, the Senate passed [Senate Bill 919](#). This bill will help address Oregon's housing crisis, and particularly the shortage of "middle housing" by granting new tools for local governments to incentivize new construction. Middle housing is a range of house-scale buildings with multiple units including, duplexes, accessory dwelling units (ADUs), triplexes, quadplexes and cottage clusters.

SB 919 will allow local governments to exempt newly constructed ADUs, duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes from local property taxes for five years, if the new units are used as a primary residence. This will preserve local decision making, while allowing more incentivization of housing. The requirement that the unit be newly constructed and used as a primary residence will ensure that these incentives go only to new housing stock that is used to house Oregonians, not for short term rentals.

Middle Housing was identified in the [Oregon Housing Needs Analysis](#) as an important gap in Oregon's housing supply, SB 919 will work to close this gap.

"Oregon needs to be building more housing of all types fast, including middle housing," **said Senator Kayse Jama (D - Portland)**. "SB 919 will make it easier to build more middle housing and give cities and counties new tools to boost development in our communities."

Addressing the housing crisis and supporting housing development is a key component of [Senate Democrats' 2023 Oregon Works agenda](#).

SB 919 is one of the hundreds of bills that Senate Democrats rescued by negotiating an end to the Senate Republican walkout. Thanks to Senate Democrats showing up, doing their jobs, and delivering results for the people of Oregon, SB 919 now moves to the House for consideration.

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