

David Brock Smith

State Representative

HOUSE DISTRICT 1

Curry, Coos, Douglas & Josephine Counties

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Saturday, July 1st, 2017

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Representative David Brock Smith received unanimous bipartisan & bicameral support today for the passage of his Affordable Workforce Housing Legislation – HB 2377

SALEM – “I am sincerely appreciative of the support of my colleagues on my Affordable Workforce Housing Legislation,” said Representative David Brock Smith (R-Port Orford). House Bill 2377 authorizes that a city or county may adopt an ordinance or resolution granting exemption for newly rehabilitated or constructed multiunit rental housing.

“Affordable Workforce Housing is a serious issue in our region and across the State,” said Rep. David Brock Smith. “I have been working on this legislative concept for over a year, when researching the housing issues of Southwest Oregon as a Curry County Commissioner and Association of Oregon Counties District 4 Chair, representing Curry, Coos, Douglas, Josephine & Jackson Counties.” There are multiple State programs that exist for low income housing, that are more restrictive to zoning, location and income. HB 2377 is far less restrictive and allows local governments the ability to design their own affordable workforce housing needs while creating incentives to builders.

“As our baby boomers retire and the need for housing continues to rise, this law will give counties and cities across our State tools necessary to bring about the construction of housing for our workforce,” said Representative David Brock Smith. “Economist and data agree that to help solve our housing crisis, we need to create supply and build more housing that our workforce can afford.” HB 2377 also provides that exemption may be granted for term of up to 10 years depending on number of units rented to households with annual income at or below 120 percent of area median income, under definition adopted by city or county at monthly rates affordable to such households.

“I thank my colleagues for their bipartisan & bicameral work and support on this bill. I look forward to our continued work together to build a better Oregon.”

Rep. David Brock Smith represents House District 1, which includes Curry, Coos, Douglas and Josephine counties. This press release and an archive of previous press releases issued by Rep. David Brock Smith’s office are available on the web at: www.oregonlegislature.gov/smithd.