



## SUNRISE MOVEMENT PDX

### Testimony by Maddie Maschger, age 24, on behalf of Sunrise Movement PDX:

Good afternoon Chair Manning, Chair Gomberg, and members of the Subcommittee,

Thank you for hearing public testimony. My name is Maddie Maschger, I am 24 years old, and I live in a historic fourplex in Portland's Southeast Sunnyside neighborhood. I am writing on behalf of Sunrise Movement PDX, an Oregon chapter of a nationwide, youth led climate action organization. We stand in solidarity with Environment Oregon, the Oregon Housing Alliance, Habitat for Humanity, Oregon Abuse Advocates & Survivors in Service, the Oregon Law Center, Portland Public Schools, and the City of Milwaukie. We urge you to pass Speaker Kotek's House Bill 2001.

The IPCC has declared that we have under 11 years to radically transform our societies and economies before our climate fate is sealed. At the very heart of this is economic justice, affordable housing, healthy land use, and urban density. I will be 35 when my climate fate is sealed; many of my fellow activists will be even younger. Our future depends on the swift, uncompromising action that you, the elected leaders tasked with averting catastrophe, must take to rapidly decarbonize our economy.

**Housing policy IS climate policy.** We know that multi family homes emit a fraction of the carbon that single family homes do— each household cuts their carbon emissions **up to 20%**. Building density in our urban cores also increases the number of families who will be afforded the opportunity to walk, bike, or take public transit for their daily errands. 40% of Oregon's carbon emissions come from transportation, and if we are going to hit our targets, changes in land-use that make these options more cost-effective is nothing short of **imperative**.

We know that missing-middle housing is not only better for the planet, but more financially accessible for many.

Many residents who depend on affordable housing are members of our frontline communities, specifically low-income people of color and houseless people. They bear the largest consequences of climate change and displacement, and many members of these communities are being pushed out of their cities. Our existing single family zoning mandates across the state are based in exclusive, racist paradigms of urban planning that simply must be retired.

To meet the scale of this crisis, we have to say, "**Yes in my backyard!**" Every day that the construction of luxury McMansions continues while the construction of missing-middle housing remains illegal is a day **wasted** in our ever-shortening window of opportunity. Habitat for Humanity, Portland Community Reinvestment Initiatives Inc., and Hacienda CDC have all endorsed the re-legalization of missing-middle housing, because each dollar of state funding goes further. Luxury housing and urban sprawl do not grow healthy communities.

We must relegalize alternatives to the status quo that is killing our planet. My peers and I will live through the next sixty years, through the entire life-cycle of the decisions you are making, and through the worst, most destructive effects of the climate crisis if we do not act. A refusal to face the urgent reality of the climate crisis will have a devastating impact on all of our futures.

Please, do the right thing and vote YES on HB 2001. We will be watching.