

Board of County Commissioners

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May 1, 2019

The Honorable Matt Gray 200 E. Colfax Ave., Room 307 Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chairman Gray,

We are writing to express our strong support for HB 1309: Mobile Home Park Act Oversight.

Mobile homes are a vital source of affordable housing in Eagle County. The particularly high cost of living in Eagle County and limited housing stock has created an especially high demand for affordable housing. Anticipated growth and limited land for development will continue to exacerbate pressure for affordable housing options. Currently it is estimated that 15% of Eagle County residents and 7% of Eagle County youth reside in mobile homes. Two of the largest mobile home communities are located in unincorporated Eagle County: Eagle River Village which has 381 homes, and Dotsero Mobile Home Park.

The challenges mobile home park residents in Eagle County face mirror those of other communities across Colorado. This includes concerns regarding the price and quality of water and utilities provided by the park owner, additional and unexpected fees, condition of roadways, high cost to lease land, and overall park maintenance. Ninety-three percent of Eagle River Village residents own their mobile home and contribute more than \$15,000 in property taxes annually. However, they do not own the land their property sits on. Without adequate protections, mobile home park residents live in fear of eviction should they raise concerns. The majority of mobile homes were constructed prior to 1976, pre-dating regulations on dangerous building products such as asbestos, lead, and formaldehyde. Moreover, the integrity of the mobile home is compromised should it need to be moved due to unanticipated eviction.

As a county, we currently have limited authority to provide protections for mobile home park residents. The passage of HB 1309 will change this, enabling us to consider the passage of ordinances that would protect mobile homeowners' safe use and enjoyment of their homes. HB 1309 will support community voice where it has historically been silenced and allow the mobile home residents to make much-needed improvements in their community

HB 1309 will help ensure protections for mobile home park residents.

Sincerely,

Eagle County Board of Commissioners

Jeanne McQueeney Chair Kathy Chandler-Henry Commissioner

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Matt Scherr Commissioner