

Raszka Shelley

From: Paulette <paulettea@millenicom.com>
Sent: Monday, April 15, 2013 10:22 AM
To: Raszka Shelley
Subject: RE: SAY NO TO SB 538

Dear Senator,

Please say no to Senate Bill 538. I am a Republican and I believe in property rights and self-determination, BUT not when it comes to our land use laws or our environment. SB 538 is a resurrection of the pre-statewide land use law real estate sale based economies. This is a non-sustainable economic model.

The executive order allowing certain counties to redesign zoning caused me great concern. We do not know the ramifications of this action and frankly, it was a move to appease squeaky wheels. These have been squeaking ever since our land use laws were enacted in the 70's. That executive order was a mistake and it should not be repeated.

We have a state wide land use program. It has worked and served Oregon well. With our growing population and pressures on farm and forest land we need stronger state wide land use laws instead of what is happening in this bill. Every time we go through a recession we hear reasons that we need to let our Counties do what they want with land use. I lived in Jackson/Josephine counties where there is little economy. People feel they have a God given right to subdivide to make a living. What is happening with SB 538 is going back to the pre-70's subdivide and sell model! It has never served land use planning to have that type of model; it causes chaos. Quite frankly, we need stronger laws to protect our riparian areas, farmland and forestland, not going back to the dark ages of land use planning. Every time I pass a one acre subdivision WAY out in EFU I think, how could they have let this happen? Thank God we wised up to this before our EFU was filled with small subdivisions and gone forever.

If we allow SB 538 to move forward we will have subdivisions in the middle of farmland and just chaos in our land use system. This does not create or help jobs, but goes back to the same unsustainable model of carving up and selling real estate to make a living. I would hate to think what would have happened to our farmland and forestland if "SB 538" type legislation was allowed from the 70's. Oregon would be a different and I would say a less desirable place to live and would have much less farm and forest land for real long-term production.

Please, govern wisely, what you do with land use has a massive impact on the future of Oregon. Preserve farm and forest land and create real solutions to jobs, say no to SB 538.

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