

K & K KOOS, INC.

33995 Tangent Dr.
Tangent, OR 97389

Phone: 541-982-2387
Fax: 541-928-3604
E-mail: kkoosfarms@gmail.com

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RE: Senate Bill 502

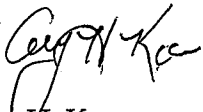
Dear Honorable Senators,

I have held a keen interest in land use planning for several years. I had the wonderful opportunity to work with fellow farmers on the original SB 100. At the time of inception we had few exceptions to Goal #3. Now there are hundreds. I have been witness to the constant erosion of our protection of farmland. This bill is just another chunk taken off our protection of farmland.

It is a sorry state when our Linn County tries to bypass our land use laws. When our commissioners brought before the public the idea of converting farmland into a park, I was seated on the county planning commission. I understand that it was a stretch adding a 'park' on the farmland. It is the only way it passed. They promised ball parks, a market, etc. to get what they wanted. Rules seemed to bend to help push this through. I do feel bad for our commissioners who paid top dollar for this property and used transportation funds to pay for it. This is just an extension of our local government trying to save face for their horrendous decision.

I urge you not to be part of this local farce. This looks like another stratagem for them to save face. Please do not allow further erosion of our farmland. Please kill this bill now.

Sincerely,



Cory H. Koos