

From the Desk of  
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## The League of Oregon Cities Urges a "NO" Vote on HB 4128

HB 4128 would require a double majority election for islands larger than 100 acres when annexed by charter annexation vote cities.

### HB 4128 creates inefficient governance and planning.

- An island within a city is an area that is surrounded on all sides by incorporated areas of a city. So, it is a pocket of unincorporated land surrounded by a city, with roads and services that connect and overlap. As a result, non-residents live inside a city and access the services that a city provides to its residents at the same level and rate as a resident, but they do not pay for these services. This complicates city planning for higher levels of urbanization and extending services in an orderly, comprehensive way.
- Instead, counties have to provide services to urban areas, but this requires the county to cross through city areas to provide these services. The resources spent providing services to these area would be better spent providing services outside city limits.

### HB 4128 interferes with the current, carefully balanced land use system.

- SB 100 created a system to grow urban areas without leading to the urban sprawl seen in so many of our neighboring states. This included the urban growth boundary process, which allows a city to develop onto lands that have been designated for growth.
- When a city needs to grow it looks to the lands inside the urban growth boundary. If a city cannot annex in a large island because island residents can veto an annexation, the city will need to look outside of the city limits to accommodate more growth. This means cities will grow out further into lands that SB 100 sought to protect.

### HB 4128 affects whose vote counts.

- If a majority within a large island voted against the proposed annexation, their votes are the only votes that mattered, regardless of if the majority of voters in the entire affected area voted in favor of annexation. Essentially, this bill gives non-residents the power to prevent themselves from paying the same level of taxes that everyone else around them pays but receive access to the same services as their neighbors.

**PLEASE VOTE NO ON HB 4128**

*Helping Cities Succeed*