



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON

February 23, 2015

To: Senate Environment and Natural Resources
Senator Chris Edwards, Chair
Members of the Committee
Beth.Reiley@state.or.us

Re: SB 25, Allowing Rural Counties NOT to Comply with State Land Use Goals--**OPPOSE**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League supports our state land use planning program with local implementation. Land use planning is about where people live, work, play, shop and how they get there. It's also about the economy of our state and local areas.

There are eight counties which would be allowed to "opt out" of our land use planning program under this bill—a program that has preserved their agricultural lands to the benefit of the residents of these counties for the past 40 years. **Agriculture IS the economic engine of Eastern Oregon.** From cattle to hay to wheat to potatoes to a variety of other crops on to processing those commodities, the land base supporting agriculture is critical to the lifeblood of these citizens. (See attached fact sheet: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Oregon/Publications/facts_and_figures/facts_and_figures.pdf.)

We/they cannot afford to see that land squandered by speculative decisions.

Under the findings on page 1, lines 22 and 23, of SB 25, we notice a most telling error statement. Business development DOES require "urban" services such as city water, sewer and other public utilities, adequate and well-maintained roads as well as services expected by their employees such as public safety and good schools near where they live.

In developing new rules around expansion of urban growth boundaries, research has noted that cities and towns in "rural" Oregon are really the same as those located in "urban" Oregon as related to their form and function. There is a misunderstanding of those terms related to land use. People can be located in what is considered "rural Oregon", yet the services they require for a successful city or town within that broader geographic region are the same services needed by cities and towns in other parts of the state. The same is true of businesses no matter where they locate.

Allowing sprawling subdivisions in the middle of our important agriculture land not only creates a burden on public services, but sets up inherent conflicts of land usage as our farmers and ranchers go about the business of growing crops or raising cattle.

We ask that you carefully consider the benefits that our land use system provides to Eastern Oregon and not move this bill forward.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Robin Wisdom in black ink.

Robin Wisdom
President

Handwritten signature of Peggy Lynch in black ink.

Peggy Lynch
Natural Resources Coordinator

Attachment: Oregon Agriculture: Facts and Figures July 2014

Value of Oregon agriculture: Crop production, 2013

Crop	Acres	Production	Value
Field crops			
Barley (bu)	50,000	3,506,000	\$14,525,000
Corn, grain (bu)	36,000	6,840,000	\$38,304,000
Corn, silage (tons)	43,000	1,161,000	\$52,338,000
Hay, alfalfa (tons)	400,000	1,840,000	\$369,840,000
Hay, all other (tons)	620,000	1,364,000	\$264,616,000
Hops (lbs)	4,789	8,549,100	\$31,461,000
Oats (bu)	13,000	1,300,000	\$5,330,000
Peppermint (lbs)	215,000	1,849,000	\$50,443,000
Potatoes (cwt)	39,600	21,582,000	\$170,498,000
Sugarbeets (tons)	9,300	357,000	\$20,756,000
Wheat (bu)	868,000	53,904,000	\$368,210,000
Seed crops*			
Alfalfa (lbs)	2,370	2,028,000	\$4,692,000
Bentgrass (lbs)	4,710	2,177,000	\$5,567,000
Bluegrass (lbs)	12,630	16,184,000	\$18,849,000
Fescue (lbs)	114,690	211,797,000	\$151,956,000
Annual ryegrass (lbs)	127,040	240,721,000	\$74,640,000
Perennial ryegrass (lbs)	105,690	156,861,000	\$111,088,000
Fruits and nuts			
Apples (tons)	4,900	68,500	\$49,829,000
Blackberries (lbs)	6,000	51,020,000	\$42,268,000
Blueberries (lbs)	9,600	89,500,000	\$94,335,000
Cherries, sweet (tons)	13,000	46,000	\$91,272,000
Cranberries (bbls)	3,000	390,000	\$11,934,000
Grapes for wine (tons)	18,500	49,000	\$107,310,000
Hazelnuts (tons)	30,000	45,000	\$120,600,000
Pears, Bartlett (tons)	3,800	55,000	\$28,089,000
Pears, other (tons)	10,800	152,000	\$83,028,000
Prunes & plums (tons)	1,300	6,250	\$3,047,000
Raspberries, red (lbs)	1,300	5,350,000	\$6,360,000
Strawberries (lbs)	1,700	16,700,000	\$10,634,000
Vegetables			
Beans, snap (tons)	10,550	66,850	\$13,626,000
Corn, sweet (cwt)	24,520	4,685,200	\$34,748,000
Onions, storage (cwt)	20,900	13,948,000	\$143,256,000
Peas, green (tons)	21,100	40,300	\$10,671,000

* 2012 OSU estimate

County gross farm and ranch sales: 2012

Rank	County	Dollars
1	Marion	\$639,326,000
2	Umatilla	\$487,281,000
3	Morrow	\$482,379,000
4	Malheur	\$373,397,000
5	Clackamas	\$343,514,000
6	Linn	\$301,932,000
7	Washington	\$292,044,000
8	Klamath	\$290,402,000
9	Yamhill	\$269,839,000
10	Polk	\$162,792,000
11	Tillamook	\$141,560,000
12	Lane	\$128,457,000
13	Hood River	\$112,094,000
14	Wasco	\$107,891,000
15	Lake	\$107,047,000
16	Benton	\$101,893,000
17	Union	\$99,003,000
18	Baker	\$92,244,000
19	Harney	\$89,791,000
20	Douglas	\$76,485,000
21	Coos	\$74,450,000
22	Jefferson	\$74,398,000
23	Clatsop	\$66,638,000
24	Jackson	\$65,918,000
25	Sherman	\$65,266,000
26	Wallowa	\$60,951,000
27	Lincoln	\$57,812,000
28	Multnomah	\$56,774,000
29	Grant	\$52,694,000
30	Crook	\$47,741,000
31	Gilliam	\$34,631,000
32	Curry	\$33,782,000
33	Columbia	\$26,512,000
34	Deschutes	\$26,103,000
35	Josephine	\$21,334,000
36	Wheeler	\$16,427,000

Value of Oregon agricultural exports: 2012

Commodity	Value
Seeds	\$378,800,000
Wheat and products	\$241,500,000
Fruits and preparations	\$235,800,000
Vegetables and preparations	\$152,400,000
Dairy products	\$68,300,000
Beef and veal	\$57,500,000
Tree nuts	\$55,900,000
Grain products	\$53,300,000
Feed and fodders	\$34,500,000
Hides and skins	\$29,000,000
Sugar and products	\$14,100,000
Corn	\$9,000,000
Pork	\$900,000
Vegetable oils	\$400,000
Others	\$702,600,000

Oregon commercial fish landings: 2013

Type of fishery	Pounds	Value
Crab*	18,221,417	\$48,952,000
Shrimp	47,691,486	\$24,436,000
Groundfish	31,021,995	\$22,100,000
Whiting	167,499,488	\$20,435,000
Tuna	11,174,971	\$16,163,000
Salmon	3,513,849	\$12,421,000
Other	62,508,675	\$10,935,000
Total	341,631,881	\$152,216,000

* December 2012 through August 2013

Oregon's record high production for years 1980-2013

Crop	Amount	Unit	Year
Apples	102,500	tons	1987
Barley	20,806,000	bu	1986
Pears	258,000	tons	1994
Hay	3,624,000	tons	2004
Hazelnuts	49,500	tons	2001
Onions, storage	16,214,000	cwt	2007
Potatoes	30,683,000	cwt	2000
Blueberries	65,500,000	lbs	2011
Ryegrass, annual	266,460,000	lbs	1999
Nursery	98,000,000	dollars	2007
Strawberries	1,014,000	cwt	1988
Sweet cherries	60,000	tons	1988
Sweet corn	452,330	tons	1995
Wheat	77,400,000	bu	1980

OREGON AGRICULTURE:

FACTS & FIGURES

July 2014



Information furnished by

- National Agricultural Statistics Service
- Oregon State Statistician - Dave Losh
- Oregon State University Extension Service

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disabilities act, this publication will be
made available in alternative formats upon
request.

Oregon farms: 2013

Number of farms	35,000
Land in farms (acres)	16,500,000
Average farm size (acres)	471
Value per crop land acre (dollars)	2,400

Operations

Size of operation (acres)	% of total farms
1-9	25.7%
10-49	35.7%
50-179	19.6%
180-499	8.4%
500-999	3.9%
1,000-1,999	2.5%
2,000 or more	4.2%

By type	Percent
Individual	84.3%
Partnership	6.6%
Incorporated	7.2%
Other (cooperative, estate/trust, institutional)	2.0%

By tenure	Percent
Full owners	78.7%
Part owners	15.4%
Tenants	5.9%

Age of principal operator	Percent
Under 25	0.3%
25-34	3.7%
35-44	8.5%
45-49	7.4%
50-54	12.5%
55-59	14.9%
60-64	17.1%
65-69	13.8%
70 and over	21.7%
Average age of operator (years)	59.6

Livestock inventory: 1/1/2014

Commodity	Head
Cattle and calves	1,280,000
Beef cows	516,000
Milk cows	124,000
Cattle on feed	75,000
Sheep and lambs	195,000
Ewes	97,000
Market lambs	67,000
Horses and mules ¹	118,000
Mink, females bred	67,900
Hogs ²	85,000
Goats	37,500

¹ OSU 2012

² December 1, 2013

Oregon's top 40 commodities 2013

Rank	Commodity	Value - Dollar
1	Greenhouse & nursery*	745,162,000
2	Cattle & calves	669,090,000
3	Hay	634,456,000
4	Milk	532,968,000
5	Grass seed*	411,056,000
6	Wheat	368,210,000
7	Potatoes	170,498,000
8	Onions, storage	143,256,000
9	Hazelnuts	120,600,000
10	Pears	111,117,000
11	Grapes for wine	107,310,000
12	Christmas Trees*	102,891,000
13	Blueberries	94,335,000
14	Cherries	92,752,000
15	Corn, grain & silage*	90,642,000
16	Eggs*	66,077,000
17	Mint, for oil	50,433,000
18	Apples	49,829,000
19	Crab**	48,982,000
20	Blackberries	42,268,000
21	Sweet corn*	34,748,000
22	Hops	31,461,000
23	Vegetable & flower seed*	31,452,000
24	Grass & grain straw*	29,934,000
25	Watermelons*	27,706,000
26	Shrimp landings**	24,436,000
27	Sheep & lamb*	23,177,000
28	Groundfish**	22,100,000
29	Hay, Silage*	21,582,000
30	Horses & Mules	20,818,000
31	Sugarbeets	20,756,000
32	Whiting**	20,435,000
33	Mink*	19,935,000
34	Tuna**	16,163,000
35	Barley	14,525,000
36	Beans, Snap	13,626,000
37	Raspberries	13,226,000
38	Cranberries	11,934,000
39	Green peas, processed	10,671,000
40	Strawberries	10,634,000

* 2012 OSU estimate

** 2013 OFWS estimate

2013 National ranking of Oregon agricultural production

Commodity	Rank	Percent of US
Blackberries	1	100%
Boysenberries	1	100%
Hazelnuts	1	100%
Raspberries, black	1	100%
Ryegrass seed	1	92%
Orchardgrass seed	1	94%
Crimson clover	1	85%
Fescue seed	1	61%
Sugarbeets for seed	1	47%
Red clover seed	1	75%
Potted florist azaleas	1	53%
Christmas trees	1	17%
Onions, storage	1	27%
Peppermint	2	30%
Hops	2	12%
Raspberries, red*	2	
Blueberries	2	17%
Snap beans, processing	3	10%
Kentucky bluegrass seed	3	20%
Dungeness crab	3	29%
Austrian winter peas	3	26%
Sweet cherries	3	16%
Nursery stock	3	11%
Strawberries	3	1%
Garlic	3	0%
Pears	3	24%
Mink	4	8%
Green peas, processing	4	11%
Cranberries	4	4%

* Reporting procedures vary between states.
Exact percentage unknown.

Oregon's top producing counties: 2012

Greenhouse and nursery	Gross sales
Marion	\$198,629,000
Clackamas	\$160,271,000
Washington	\$147,440,000
Yamhill	\$86,836,000
Multnomah	\$34,421,000

Cattle & calves	Number
Malheur	276,100
Klamath	187,000
Harney	161,000
Baker	123,700
Lake	99,500

Hay	Tons
Klamath	403,100
Lake	310,900
Harney	244,500
Baker	218,200
Malheur	198,150

Caneberries	Gross sales
Marion	\$20,173,000
Clackamas	\$10,748,000
Washington	\$10,680,000
Yamhill	\$3,288,000
Linn	\$1,209,000

Potatoes	Cwt
Umatilla	8,250,000
Morrow	7,360,000
Klamath	2,353,200
Baker	2,000,000
Malheur	1,540,000

Wheat	Bushels
Umatilla	18,236,200
Morrow	9,360,000
Sherman	6,088,500
Linn	4,025,000
Gilliam	3,674,250

Pears	Tons
Hood River	160,270
Jackson	32,375
Wasco	5,300
Marion	960
Josephine	665

Wine grapes	Tons
Yamhill	9,860
Umatilla	6,270
Polk	3,910
Douglas	3,100
Marion	3,060