

## SENATE BILL 25 ISSUES

Oregon's Land Use Goals have made Oregon recognized Nationwide as a leader in assuring that future generations will benefit from the natural resources that we have

experienced. Many of those resources no longer exist in a form that is recognizable.

The Land Use Goals are being weakened and SB 25 is another effort which represent a slippery slope

the use of "exceptions" represents.

For example: The business of renewable energy currently impacts more land than any other business

in Oregon, however, these developments are not required to follow multiple Land Use Goals.

For example, these industrial developments are being sited even if they do not meet the goals relating to

impacts on views and Archaeological resources. Impacts on Protected Resources such as Wild and Scenic Rivers

only apply if the development were to be sited on land included in the designation and there is no longer a

limitation on the amount of high value farm land that can be built on. So many exceptions are being approve

that allow short-term planning to override the long term value of protection of resources for future generations

that land use goals are becoming meaningless. This is yet another bill that will give a green

light to others who find the Land Use Laws a barrier to some specific project they support.

The Columbia Gorge is an example of the results. A couple of months ago I stopped at Biggs on my way to

Portland. A lady was taking pictures. I asked what she thought of the Columbia Gorge. She

said that they had been here 20 years ago, but they would never be back. She said the area used to be

beautiful, but it has been destroyed. This is a reflecion of just one of the economic impacts of ignoring

the rules that protect Oregon's environment. Serious consideration should be given to allowing exceptions to address

any group's wishes to avoid the protections to the resources of this state.

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