



## **FOREST PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

*C/O Neighbors West Northwest  
2257 NW Raleigh Street  
Portland, Oregon 97210*

April 3, 2015

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Oregon Legislature  
Chair Chris Edwards, Vice Chair Alan Olsen  
Committee Members Michael Dembrow, Floyd Prozanski, Chuck Thomsen

Dear Senators:

SB 716 would allow Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties to site an industrial reserve in a previously designated urban or rural reserve. Section 4(4)(b) specifically allows counties to “redesignate or undesignate lands already designated as urban reserve or rural reserve.”

This is absolutely unacceptable to us. Forest Park Neighborhood Association fought long and hard to gain rural reserve protection for our farm, forest and habitat lands, and we rely on the promise of a nearly 50-year life for our rural reserve boundaries.

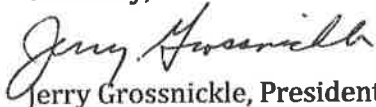
Citizens, local governments, and Metro participated in a long, thorough, and (we hope we can say) ultimately successful reserves process that was based on in-depth studies, exhaustive advisory committee work, many hearings, negotiated intergovernmental agreements, and final agreement and approvals by county, Metro and LCDC officials.

Rural reserves were established on lands that were determined to need protection from urban development, and industrial development is by its nature incompatible with the purposes of rural reserves. There can be no reasonable justification for the Legislature to give counties authority to now disregard the rural reserve designations that were so thoroughly considered. Neither has Multnomah County, to our knowledge, sought such authority.

SB 716 also sets a bad precedent. The urban/rural reserves system was designed to provide long-term stability to the UGB expansion process, certainty for farmers, and long-term protection for natural features. SB 716 tells us that we may instead need to battle for our rural reserve boundaries whenever the Legislature meets.

Please oppose this bill. It most certainly does not represent a regional consensus on how to deal with industrial land needs. If ever the Legislature were to enact a significant modification of the reserves system, such as represented by this bill, we believe it would be important to do so as part of a regional agreement among the governments of the three counties and Metro. Otherwise, the Legislature would have broken faith with the people of this region, who rely on our urban and rural reserves compact, arguably the most significant regional land use achievement of recent years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry Grossnickle".

Jerry Grossnickle, President  
Forest Park Neighborhood Association  
503-289-3046