

**From:** Merry Ann Moore [<mailto:merryannmoore@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 12, 2015 7:56 PM  
**To:** Reiley Beth  
**Subject:** Urgent comment for the record - No on SB 748

TO: Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Earlier this session I wrote to oppose SB 25. It seems that bill has now morphed into an even worse concept, which would allow wholesale exemptions to Oregon's important land use planning policies in certain conditions.

Poverty in and flight from our rural counties are not caused by Oregon's land use system. Changing our land use laws will not solve counties' problems with high unemployment and poverty. Education, vocational training and other support for those in rural poverty are much sharper tools for solving these chronic, difficult issues.

Sure, changing land use laws is a lot cheaper and easier for legislators than sufficiently funding K-12 and higher education. But abandoning our system of UGBs will result in HIGHER costs for everyone over time: costs related to longer commutes, more carbon consumption and air pollution, maintaining more roads to far-flung subdivisions, supplying water and services to development that is not concentrated in urban growth boundaries.

What if we have another Great Recession? Is it your committee's intention that if many, many counties unexpectedly experience high unemployment, a lack of growth, or high poverty, that Oregon's wise system of land use planning be thrown out by them all?

And how will the State of Oregon monitor whether the high-paying jobs that are required to be created are actually permanent? Are you funding state staff to calculate and monitor this on an annual basis? Are temporary construction jobs going to be allowed to be counted? Those jobs come and go, as we learned the hard way in Central Oregon in 2008.

Oregon's tourism industry is so strong because our land use system has prevented our state from looking like the rest of America. Please don't weaken our land use laws. Stay the course and preserve the system that is working so well.

**Vote no on SB 748.**

Thank you for considering my views, Merry Ann Moore