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**Subject:** SB 716

Chair Edwards, Vice Chair Olsen and Senators of the Committee,

To those of us who made the effort last week to travel to Salem to provide testimony against Senate Bill 716 and who, at the same time, had the opportunity to listen to eloquent and well reasoned testimony against this bill from from some of our most respected leaders in Oregon, it is a big surprise to hear that the bill may progress to a work session this coming week.

We anticipated that the opposition coming from Metro, Metro cities, Richard Whitman, Judge Riggs, a former judge of the Oregon Supreme Court, and others would convince the Committee that this bill is a 'special interests' one and not a solution to helping **develop** employment lands. Those cities and Metro, who are at the 'sharp end' of getting land within the UGB developed as quickly as possible, said very strongly---the problem is not that we need to **designate more raw land for development**, but rather the key problem is getting the financing to develop the needed infrastrure and services to **existing** industrial land within the UGB. That message came across loud and clear to me.

The second message was that if SB 716 was passed it will decimate the Urban & Rural Reserves process and do lasting damage to Oregon's land use laws. That was Richard Whitman's message and it was echoed by many others with experience and knowledge of the process.

Finally, when a hearing has perhaps 5 individuals testifying in its favor and probably some 30 + testifying against, including a spectrum of elected officials and respected community leaders, that surely tells us something valuable.

I do hope your Committee will not pass this bill on to the Senate, given all the evidence that has been presented to you.

With many thanks

Tony Holt  
Wilsonville