

From: Ben Williams <ben.williams@liturgica.com>
Date: April 12, 2015 at 10:21:59 AM PDT
To: <Sen.ChrisEdwards@state.or.us>
Cc: <sen.petercourtney@state.or.us>, <Beth.Reiley@state.or.us>
Subject: Follow up to SB 716

Senator Edwards;

This message follows our previous message of opposition and subsequent testimony on April 6 at the hearing on this bill.

Given the overwhelming opposition that testified before you (City of Wilsonville, retired Chief Justice Riggs, Oregon Farm Bureau, Save Helvetia and Hillsboro area citizens and farmers, 1000 Friends of Oregon, Friends of Marion County, Charbonneau residents and Friends of French Prairie) – to say nothing of the opposition letters you later received from the Governor’s Natural Resources Policy Directory and the City of Tualatin – it is quite hard to conceive the rationale you are choosing to use to schedule a Work Session on this bill.

As many pointed out in their testimony, the State land use laws are not “broken.” They work, and they are supposed to be difficult especially when what is in view to be developed is a precious resource like farm land.

Did you not hear the point repeated made that not only would this bill fundamentally change the land use laws, but would broadcast a message that the House and Senate are “open for business” to create legislative fixes for any developer or special interest with enough money to spend on it?

We strongly urge you to reconsider and cancel the Work Session you have pending for Monday, April 12.

Sincerely

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