

Trant Lindsay

From: Pat Wheeler <wheelerp@onid.orst.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 8:45 AM
To: Trant Lindsay
Subject: HB 2666

Dear Committee Members,

Please oppose HB 2666. I am a small farmer owning property in Benton County and Polk County. Our farm and forest lands are a very important sector of Oregon's economy. Land use laws were put in place to protect these resources. Mining aggregate is allowed on resource land after public review to minimize adverse effects. Almost all aggregate proposals are passed. Why weaken the laws now?

Important protections that benefit the farming sector and the public in general include:

- 1) the ability to raise practical farming concerns at the local level
- 2) the ability to raise local transportation concerns at the local level, and
- 3) the ability to raise noise and dust concerns at the local level.

I see no reason to fast-track the review process to favor the mining industry. Farming and other public issues should continue to be reviewed at the local level to assure that there is an adequate review system. I oppose this proposal for rubber stamping aggregate proposals and holding the aggregate industry free of any obligation to mitigate negative impacts of their industry. Oregonians currently have a fair process and we should maintain a fair process.

Please join me in opposing HB 2666.

Pat Wheeler, Monmouth, Oregon