

Dear Senator Gesler,

I am a strong supporter of affordable housing, but I am writing in opposition to SB 1575 because it has the strong potential to harm farm land. I live in Wilsonville and have been aware of land use planning and disputes for many years. I think that the integrity Urban Growth Boundaries need to be protected. They have been developed by rigorous public input processes and I feel that SB 1575 will tend to undermine all those legislatively mandated and court-affirmed processes.

I do not believe that this bill will accomplish its declared intention of promoting affordable housing. I support further encouragement for affordable housing but what I see here is an attempt to place the onus for lack of affordable housing on land-use planning processes when in fact present law allows for local implementation of affordable housing processes.

Is this bill not a smoke-screen for developers to expand into rural areas without needing to follow established land use processes? Lack of buildable land is not the problem. The problem is the will of the developer community to include affordable housing in their plans. Let's help them make it economically sensible to add affordable housing to their development plans without opening the door to erosion of Oregon's Land Use Planning.

Thank you,
Eric Hoem
8301 SW Lafayette Way
Wilsonville, OR 97070
503-694-6036