

Dear Senate Committee on Business and Transportation and Chair Beyer,

Rural lands in Oregon speak to who we are. Existing Land Use laws in the state of Oregon address the unique stance we as Oregonians take, and our legislators support, in preserving what is central about living in Oregon. Agriculture is the second largest industry in the state and that tells us we will become something else without the protection of our Land Use Laws which safeguard our farms and open spaces and agriculture lands.

Do we want to look like Arizona? New Mexico? When was the last time you drove through those states and got a first hand glimpse of what happens when Land Use Laws are diminished and Ag lands around small towns bloom into sprawl and subdivisions and strip malls. When that happens, some basic integrity is lost and the unique flavor that makes a place what it is gives way to bad planning and a rush to build and grow where building and growing makes no sense. I am not against growth. It is inevitable. I support good, sensible, well thought out growth. I am completely against breaking down our Land Use Laws that were given historic thought. I am proud of those Laws.

I oppose SB 1588.

Oregonians love their Ag Lands and their open spaces and the wild life that moves through these areas. All counties need to adhere to them.

Thank you for reading and considering my views.

Yours,

Pamela Burry
The beautiful State of Oregon