

Senators,

Please do not allow SB 1573 to be slipped into the affordable housing package. Several of us here, in Grants Pass, worked hard to secure the people's right to prevent the city from arbitrarily annexing homes, businesses, and land each time they wanted more revenue, by gathering signatures to put annexation on the ballot.

Please be aware that many citizens live outside the city of Grants Pass because they can't afford the property taxes to live within the city limits. Prior to the annexation ballot, several residents who were arbitrarily annexed into the city, ended up losing their homes due to new system development charges, excessive property taxes, and extraordinarily high water rates.

The people put a stop to the wanton annexations by allowing the citizens to exercise their rights to vote for or against annexations on the ballot - its their money, in Grants Pass citizens now have the right choose. Please, please, help us keep it that way.

Respectfully,

Arden McConnell
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