
From: Genetta Hughes
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2017 3:37 PM
To: HECDT Exhibits
Subject: House Bill 2470 - Urban Renewal board representation

I am writing to you to express my concern about House Bill 2470, that would require the Urban Renewal Board to include a member from each overlapping taxing jurisdiction. In our tiny city of Phoenix, Oregon (population 4,600) we have 11 overlapping districts. Our current board of seven members (public and city council representatives) would swell to 18 members. Just providing paperwork and tracking for the additional board members would strain our limited budget and staff. The representatives from the City could be outvoted by entities which have limited interest in development in our community. To expect small, rural fire districts and county vector control to have a representative on the boards of each overlapping urban renewal district in the county is unsustainable. In our area, vector control would be on five boards, with a minimum of five meetings a month.

There are already checks in place that require approval from overlapping districts to form Urban Renewal Agencies in our state. I know in our case, we are in constant communication with the overlapping districts as we plan our developments, and include them in our steering committees and project communications, for those projects which impact them directly.

I urge you to think carefully about the impact of this legislation. I believe it would be an unnecessary burden to small communities, and would have little or no benefit to the community.

Thank you for your time.

Genetta Hughes

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