

I live in Sisters and cannot make the trip to Salem to testify on these bills. Please accept this email as my testimony and include it in the record.

HB2937:

No doubt the sponsors of this bill are trying to create 'affordable housing' and that is a laudable goal, but unfortunately there are no affordability requirements in the law, so the resulting dwellings are unlikely to be affordable. We don't need new laws to permit dwellings on farm land that are needed for farming. Hundreds of new dwellings get approved on EFU land each year. There is just no reason to change the rules.

Worse yet, this bill will not increase the housing supply as much as it may seem. If this bill passes, many of the accessory dwelling units that are created will be for purposes of vacation rental. As such, they will bring considerable traffic to the area and will have a negative impact on wildlife.

Oregon has done such a good job of discouraging sprawl through EFU zoning and its accompanying regulations. This bill would result in sprawl from population centers into rural areas, with no thought to the consequences. And county governments who can ill afford it will have to pick up the tab for the increased demand for services in rural areas.

Thank you for your consideration,
Eva Eagle