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**Cc:** [SENR Exhibits](#); [Raszka Shelley](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose SB644  
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Dear Senators of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

Since I cannot travel to Salem to testify at the hearing on SB644, I am sending this email to share my opposition with you.

It is unusual, at best, to see specific counties named to be the 'beneficiaries' of a major exemption to State law.

Yet Section (1)(y) of Section 14 ("Land Use Provisions") specifically denies the elected governments of seven counties the ability to review certain mining activities, thus depriving the citizens of those counties from protection of the laws. Since the activities listed are already permitted as conditional uses, any county may already allow such activities to proceed, and current law allows all counties to insure that mining companies comply with state and local law. But this section appears to overrule the democratic process in seven counties in order to guarantee that any effort to engage in these mining activities will be able to do so. This end run of local government cannot be tolerated.

Please support the democratic process in all of Oregon's counties by voting this bill down now.

Thank you,  
Eva Eagle  
Sisters, OR