

From: Bob Burns
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 114 and 258 - PLEASE VOTE YES
Date: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:49:17 AM

Members of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

As a property owner, a member of the Jefferson City Council, and *especially* as a believer in the right of people to shape the future of the city in which they live, I urge you to please restore our right to vote in matters of annexations and boundary changes by voting YES! on SB 114 and SB 258.

The right to vote was taken from Oregon Home Rule cities last March in a manner totally unbefitting a legislative body, as you know. But more importantly, the loss of the right itself leaves cities vulnerable to speculators and developers looking to make a quick dollar and, in the case of the Willamette Valley, by replacing crops of food and fiber with crops of houses. I have personally seen the effects of unrestrained growth in places I have previously resided, most notable the Silicon Valley of California. Moreover, the long-term costs of development are invariably picked up by taxpayers, not developers. This has been proven over again.

Growth is indeed inevitable. But the people most affected by it should be able to say where and how it should happen. These two bill will restore that ability.

As it presently stands, we are without recourse.

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