

From: j-porter@juno.com
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Statement in SUPPORT of SB 114 & SB 258
Date: Friday, March 31, 2017 3:25:59 PM

March 31, 2017

Chair Michael Dembrow, and Members of the
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
900 Court Street NE, Room 347
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Dembrow and Members of the Committee,

I was a resident of Canby when voter annexation was approved in that city in 1997, and felt that I had a voice while voting on multiple annexation requests before moving away over a decade later. Most of the annexation requests were approved. The voter annexation process created some additional burden for the developers, but the community was given the opportunity to have a say in the decision.

The passage of SB 1573 in 2016 was wrong. This bill trampled on city charters and stripped away the rights of citizens to participate in the democratic process chosen for their own communities. Creating a precedent to amend or repeal city charter provisions denies the Oregon Constitution, Article XI, Section 2, which states that, "The Legislative Assembly shall not enact, amend or repeal any charter or act of incorporation for any municipality, city or town." Even if SB 1573 was somehow legally justified, it disrespects the citizens and communities that opted to allow voters to approve annexation requests.

I urge you to support SB 114 and SB 258, repealing the provisions of SB 1573 and restoring the rights of citizens to determine how their communities grow.

Thank you for your consideration,

James Porter
Springfield, Oregon