

## Statement Supporting SB 258 and SB 114

To: Senate Committee on Environmental and Natural Resources

From: Ernest Meredith, Philomath resident and homeowner

Date: April 1, 2017

When the legislature passed, approved, and the Governor signed into law SB 1573 a violation of the State Constitution was initiated. SB 1573 usurps the City Charters of at least 30 Oregon cities and nullifies the right of residents to vote on land annexations into their respective cities. The Oregon Constitution explicitly prohibits the legislature from amending or repealing city charters (Article XI, Section 2). Voters/residents must not be denied the right to vote on land annexations and development.

If the vote of the residents on annexation can be invalidated, will the votes of the people on tax measures be the next item to be eliminated? If you were not a legislator would you want someone removing your right to vote that is guaranteed by our State Constitution?

Ernest Meredith  
479-879-4008