



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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April 3, 2017

SUBJECT: Senate Bills 114 and 258

Dear Oregon Legislators,

The City of Salem supports SB 114 and SB 258, which would repeal the prohibition on cities sending annexation requests to voters when all land owners in the territory submit a petition. The bill would allow the City of Salem to once again follow our Charter, which requires annexations to be approved by voters except in limited circumstances. This requirement was added to our charter by a vote of the people on petition-initiated Ballot Measure 24-34 on May 16, 2000. Reinstating a voter-approval process would therefore reflect the will of the people.

Since the charter was changed in 2000, 149 territories have been put to voters for potential annexation. All but one of those proposed annexations have been approved by voters. The voter-approval process has therefore not been an impediment to annexations in Salem.

In addition, the City of Salem generally supports legislation that restores or enhances our local authority.

The City of Salem urges you to support SB 114 and SB 258.

Sincerely,

Lisa Anderson-Ogilvie, AICP
Interim Community Development Director

cc: Steve Powers, City Manager
Kacey Duncan, Deputy City Manager