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**Cc:** [Sen.MichaelDembrow@state.or.us](mailto:Sen.MichaelDembrow@state.or.us); [Sen.AlanOlsen@state.or.us](mailto:Sen.AlanOlsen@state.or.us); [Sen.Prozanski](mailto:Sen.Prozanski); [Sen.Roblan](mailto:Sen.Roblan)  
**Subject:** Stop advancing SB 432, SB 602, SB 608, SB 612, and SB 618  
**Date:** Thursday, April 06, 2017 11:20:49 AM

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[senr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:senr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov),

and

[Sen.HermanBaertschiger@state.or.us](mailto:Sen.HermanBaertschiger@state.or.us)

Dear Senators,

I am writing from Grants Pass, Oregon. I live in a farming area 3 miles west of the City of Grants Pass. After moving here in 1974 one of the things I noticed were the large number of vehicles with bumper stickers imploring folks to "DON'T CALIFORNICATE OREGON".

At that time Grants Pass was a small town of about 7,000 population and the City Limits ended just a little south of the Rogue River. Land on both sides of the river was mostly rural farming areas. Today the areas that once were farming south of the Rogue River and along Redwood Avenue have become high density residential housing.

Since 2005 my neighbors and I have been fighting to preserve our farming areas which are a big part of the rural life we enjoy. On the north side of the river along Lower River Road and Upper River Road we have been blessed that this area has remained farming. However, that changed in 2005 when the City of Grants Pass purchased the former 250 acre hops/pear orchard for a regional park outside City Limits and outside their Urban Growth Boundary. In 2010 the city placed the Food Bank complex on the 10 acre parcel north of Upper River Road near where I live.

I am very thankful that those folks in power in Salem in the 1960s placed restrictions to keep Oregon from becoming so much of what California has become. All one has to do is look at Google Earth to see what has taken place with all of the farming areas along coastal California from the border with Mexico to Santa Barbara, or all of the land once used for farming around the San Francisco Bay area where you don't know when you are leaving one town and entering another.

If you now weaken Oregon's Land Use Laws and allow developers to come in and start development inconsistent with the current land use guidelines, then you begin the slippery slope where all land use in Oregon can be called into question!

I (we) are **very much against** all of the following Senate Bills below that are under consideration:

- SB 432: Allows rural county with no population growth, and certain local governments in county, to adopt comprehensive land use plan without complying with statewide land use planning goals.
- SB 602: Allows local government meeting certain requirements of statewide

land use planning goal relating to economic activity to waive requirements of goals as necessary to establish and maintain five-year supply of shovel-ready employment sites.

- SB 608: Authorizes local government to expedite inclusion within urban growth boundary of land dedicated to needed housing. \* Declares emergency, effective on passage.
- SB 612: Authorizes local government to adopt exception to statewide land use planning goal for use that will create five or more new full-time jobs for which salary or wage is 400 percent or more of federal poverty guidelines for family of four. \*Applies to local government that has experienced sustained high unemployment or sustained population decline or has high poverty level. Defines related terms.
- SB 618: Allows governing body of local government to address land use emergency by waiving goal, without taking exception, to take land use action or limited land use action. \* Sunsets June 30, 2023. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

Thank you!

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