

CITY OF HALFWAY
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April 17, 2017

TO: Erin Doyle
Intergovernmental Relations Association

Dear State Representatives and State Senators,

The City of Halfway would like to go on record as very much in favor of SB432.

The City of Halfway is a very small community with a population of 290. The City of Halfway has had no growth over the last 10 years and our population has declined in recent years. The City of Halfway is always looking at options to encourage growth within the City but with the State Land Use restrictions for both UGB expansions, and zoning, it makes it challenging to do so.

The City is requesting that both the Oregon House of Representatives and the Oregon Senate strongly consider passing SB432, so small communities in Eastern Oregon can grow and prosper like other areas of Oregon.

Thank you for allowing our City to have an input in this matter; if I can provide more information, please contact myself at (541-742-4741).

Sincerely, 

Sheila Farwell
Honorable Mayor
City of Halfway

The City Of Halfway is an AA/EEO employer, in compliance with
Section 504 of the Rehab. Act of 1973

The League also testified in support of package 102, which would fund an additional engineer for the dam safety program. This person would conduct dam inspections and review dam hazard ratings.

Contact: Tracy Rutten, Intergovernmental Relations Associate – trutten@orcities.org

Eastern Oregon Land Use Relief Bill Scheduled to Move

The Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee, chaired by Senator Michael Dembrow (D-Portland), held a public hearing last week on SB 432, which would relieve cities and counties seeing population reductions from complying with statewide land use goals. The bill is now scheduled for a work session Monday, April 17.

SB 432 would allow smaller counties that have seen no population growth in the last 10 years, and any city within them that has 51 percent or more of the county's population, to adopt a comprehensive plan that does not comply with the statewide land use goals.

The League testified in favor of SB 432, citing the difficulty that many cities face in trying to amend land use decisions to create economic or housing opportunities. This bill will allow cities to have more control over their own development and provide greater flexibility to respond to community needs.

Contact: Erin Doyle, Intergovernmental Relations Associate – edoyle@orcities.org

Select Bill Summaries

Throughout the 2017 session, bills of city interest will be available to view [here](#). Summaries and status updates are included weekly to keep cities current on legislation affecting local governments during the session.

Bills are categorized by city concern using the League's standing and issue committee titles. This summary provides a hyperlink directly to the bill's language and additional information, located under the bill number, as it becomes available. This includes, but is not limited to, staff measure summaries, testimony, sponsor(s) and amendments. In addition, users can view a summary of the bill, see which lobbyist is assigned to it and get a current status report.

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