

Dear Senators and Representatives,

In support of HB 4075

I am Larry Sullivan and live in Washington County in an area referred to as Northwest Hillsboro. I came to Portland from Klamath County in 1971 and moved to Hillsboro in 1992. Some of my ancestors were living in Oregon prior to the Modoc War which took place from 1872 to 1873. My family and people just like them made this state by turning unsettled wilderness into farms, ranches and towns.

Over the years, perhaps somewhat naively, I have believed government would act in a manner that protected the individual rights of ALL CITIZENS. Now I question that belief. Today the state has absolute control over land I purchased and pay property tax on every year. A multi-layer, lengthy and expensive land use planning process approved the land use designation of UR for my land. Through a series of events, that I still do not fully understand, the recommendation of the various planning departments was overturned by legislative action resulting in my land now being designated RR. Legal opinions from both Metro and the State of Oregon concur that since legislative actions changed the designation to RR, the legislature is the only body that can change the designation. So without legislative action my land will have the RR designation forever. That precludes virtually any change in the use of my land regardless of the needs or desires of the population in general. Build a new school, NO! A new hospital, NO! Widen the road, NO! Make a park with nature trails, NO! Low cost housing, NO! Homes within walking distance to Intel, NO! NOTHING!!!!!!!!!! Even though east of Jackson School Road, less than a ¼ mile away hundreds acres of land are in the UGB of Hillsboro and are zoned industrial. Where will the people that fill these jobs live? Southeast Portland or Clark County Washington and further congest highway 26??

If Oregonian's truly believe in land use planning then the process has to be allowed to run its course. Had special interest groups like 1000 Friends and Save Helvetia not run to the courts when they saw what they thought was an opportunity to hijack the land use process I would not be writing this letter and you could be focusing on what you were elected to do. That duty being manage the business of the state, not settle disputes between land owners and advocacy groups. Because of the court's decisions the legislature acted in what it thought was a responsible manner. Unfortunately there were some unanticipated outcomes. Getting land like what I own completely locked out of the land use process was one unforeseen result.

The purpose of my letter is to ask you, the legislators, to release my land from unreasonable and unwarranted state control. I doubt anyone anticipated implementing HB 4078 would result in my land being totally excluded from the normal land use planning process. It did. Passage of HB 4075 would correct that oversight.

Respectfully,

Larry Sullivan