

## HB 4075

I am writing in favor of HB 4075; the reinstatement of 1700 acres of NW Hillsboro back into urban reserves. It only makes good sense for future planning.

It's not a question of "if" farmland will be developed, but "when". With population in our area expanding at a pace that far exceeded expectations, housing prices and rent are skyrocketing, schools and classrooms are overcrowded, and traffic is jammed.

The city of Hillsboro is currently planning for our future and cannot even consider NW Hillsboro as a possibility due to HB 4078 placing the land into rural reserves in perpetuity. It will take action by the legislature, to undo this unintended consequence. NW Hillsboro is directly adjacent to one of the largest employment centers in Washington County. This land could potentially fulfill the need for future schools, housing, parks, and nature trails, but only if the city is allowed to consider it through an urban reserve reinstatement.

NW Hillsboro is not the prime farmland that some groups would falsely have people believe. It is unirrigated farmland that mainly grows grasses and clover. It is NOT producing quantities of food for the masses. Meanwhile, urban development is being pushed out of the bounds of Metro and onto better farm land as evidenced by the rapid growth of North Plains and Banks.

While there are many reasons why NW Hillsboro should be reinstated to urban reserves, and my letter only touches on a few. It only makes common sense to pass HB 4075 for better future planning.

Thank you,

Aundrea Larson