

Hamre Jaime

From: Lynn Baker <cedarowfarm@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 5:47 PM
To: HAGNR Exhibits
Subject: Testimony on HB 4075

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Dear Members of the Legislature;

We are writing today to voice our opposition to HB 4075. We believe in the preservation of farm land. We value the land use process. We understand the value of locally grown food and participate in a local CSA in the Hillsboro area.

The continuous threat of developing important agricultural areas, that were already agreed upon during the Urban-Rural Reserves process, creates an uncertainty which the process was developed to correct. It creates an environment of speculative land pricing so active farmers can't afford to purchase additional land, and makes them hesitant to make needed capital investments. It prevents young farmers from starting viable agricultural operations. We want our food to be grown right here in the Hillsboro area and we want new farmers to be able to buy the land they need to grow that food. As Hillsboro and Washington County are projected to grow in the future, where will those new residents get their food? The UN released important statements just last week on the future of agriculture. They stated that small scale organic farming at the local level will be the only way to feed the world.

HB 4075 must be defeated. It creates increased traffic through farming areas, hindering operations and jeopardizing safety. Simply put, it creates more urban sprawl, more reliance on the automobile, more greenhouse emissions, and is just now what we want in our community.

Sincerely,

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