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February 19, 2018

Joint Committee on Transportation
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: No on -7 amendments to HB 4060

Dear Co-Chairs Beyer and McKeown and Members of the Committee:

Friends of Marion County is a 501(c)3 farmland protection organization founded in 1998. Our mission is to protect farm and forestland, parks, and open space.

Our organization and its individual members oppose the -7 amendment to HB 4060 and request a "NO" vote since this bill would have a major negative change to our land use system.

There are many reasons we oppose this bill. We will list a few.

1. The -7 amendment to HB 4060 proposes to reduce public participation (Goal One) in the siting of aggregate mines.
2. The 2018 shortened legislative session effectively reduces the participation of citizens to comment on legislation.
3. The 2018 shortened session gives a unwelcomed advantage to lobbyists by providing very short public notice of bills.
4. The -7 amendment to HB 4060 reduces the opportunity for neighbors of a proposed mining site to provide evidence of their negative impacts to their property.

The -7 amendment to HB 4060 is ill conceived and will have a negative effect on Oregon's landscape. We therefore request a "NO" vote on this amendment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Roger Kaye, President
Friends of Marion County
(503)743-4567
rkaye2@gmail.com

c: Senate President Courtney