

Re: Opposition to “Red Barn” Amendment to HB 4031A

To: Chair Denbrow & Members of the Senate Committee on the Environmental & Natural Resources

I am the owner and operator of Ryan Creek Farms and have been farming in the French Prairie area for over two decades.

Any amendment that attempts to change the designation of the Lanphere property at I-5 Exit 282 B should be strongly opposed and I ask you not consider the amendment to this bill being contemplated for the following reason: Lanphere bought this property knowing it was EFU land.

Now he wants to have the rules changed for his benefit. Land speculation is a risky business. The land should remain in ag production until it is brought into the urban growth boundary in the distant future.

I have been on the “Red Barn” property when it was owned by its previous owner and in my opinion it could be an excellent property for a nursery and/or a greenhouse operation.

Oregon’s land use system provides stability for farmers and our local communities. If every land speculator could just work around the system by coming to the Oregon Legislature for a special deal, you would break the system. I hope you will consider this in your deliberations.

Regards

Michael D. McCauley
Ryan Creek Farm
Aurora, Oregon