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March 10, 2019

Chair Fagan
Members of the Senate Housing Committee
State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: SB 334

Dear Chair Fagan and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 334. 1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that has worked with Oregonians for more than 40 years to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choice.

1000 Friends of Oregon opposes SB 334. SB 334 would require cities with urban reserves to expand their urban growth boundaries (UGBs) to include land designated as urban reserve, presumably immediately, notwithstanding the planning they have already done for those areas, if they could support workforce housing or “workforce commercial” development.

Many, but not all, cities in Oregon have urban reserves. UGBs are designed for a 20-year time period. Urban reserves, which exist throughout the state, are designed for a 10-30 year period *beyond the UGB period*, if and when a need for that land is shown, for residential, employment, institutional, public, or other urban use. For example, Medford, Talent, Central Point, Phoenix, Newberg, Sandy, and the Metro area all have urban reserves.

SB 334 would undermine city long-range urban planning, including infrastructure planning and investments, by requiring immediate expansion of UGBs into urban reserves, for the uses defined in the bill. Cities have enough challenges planning for and providing all levels of urban services to *existing* urban lands. Existing tools provide for the expansion of UGBs into urban reserves when there is a need and where that need can be most efficiently met.

We urge you to not support the bill. Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Kyle McCurdy".

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Deputy Director