

From: Mickey Killingsworth <killingsworthmickey@gmail.com>

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To: rep.brianclem@state.or.us, Rep.AnnaWilliams@oregonlegislature.gov,
Rep.ShellyBoshartDavis@oregonlegislature.gov, Rep.susanmclain@oregonlegislature.gov,
rep.kenhelm@oregonlegislature.gov

Subject: HB 2456 please Oppose

Dear Chairman Clem and Committee Members,

I grew up in Halfway and I am a property owner, just above Jim Town where I grew up, through a family trust in Representative Findley's district. Every time I read the title of this bill I get confused. The title should be economic Malheur not Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region. Halfway is very improvised compared to Ontario and Vale, yet is a border community to Idaho, but not in the economic development region.

This bill is not economic development (I have a degree in economics). Oregon is the sixth most expensive state to live in and Idaho is the 35th most expensive or the 15th cheapest to live in. Eighteen of the 36 counties in Oregon are border counties and most of them struggle with economic development. It is nice to supposedly help a County out that is struggling, but at least be honest that it is for a County with the zone being approximately a 20 miles radius from Weiser, in Washington County, Idaho and ten miles around Vale. This is not a regional bill as the title would imply.

I could write pages and cite sources on the cost of housing services when used as economic development without jobs. A sunset clause for one offering of housing in a large area doesn't make any sense. This region needs jobs for economic development. The only ones that makes money is the seller of the land, the real estate agent and home builder.

Giving a farm deferral and having a tax credit is just wrong. We all make choices in our lives. If someone choose to meet the requirements listed in this bill to build a home in the EFU zone for profit they should not be allowed a tax credit or the farm deferral.

As a taxpayer why should I support this tax credit? If Malheur is going to benefit from the property taxes of these new homes why isn't it the county that refunds the tax credit vs the State of Oregon taxpayers?

This is not what Oregon's land use is about when protecting the EFU zone...this land area is vast and is part of the Treasure Valley...that is like comparing the best valley farm ground to Madras.

Sincerely,

Mickey Killingsworth
798 SE Dover Lane
Madras, Oregon 97741