

Save Helvetia 13260 N.W. Bishop Road Hillsboro, Oregon 97124 www.SaveHelvetia.org

May 7, 2019

Support for HB 2790A - Conditions for Outdoor Mass Gatherings

Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

HB 2790A would allow counties to require outdoor mass gatherings to obtain land use permits and allow counties to charge a larger fee for approval of larger outdoor mass gatherings.

<u>We support these changes.</u> It opens the door to citizen and community comment, which could result in possible findings and conditions that could result in better protection of agricultural and forestry lands and resources. For example, soil compaction from traffic on fields; traffic dusting crops at a critical time; importation of noxious weeds into crop fields; among others.

This will work to improve mitigation and cause a beneficial evolution in these uses of rural agricultural and forestry lands and communities, consistent with protection of agriculture and forestry.

The higher fees might then pay down the county costs of administration, monitoring, and possible enforcement.

Respectfully,

Cherry Amabisca
President of the Board
Save Helvetia

Robert Bailey Corporate Secretary Save Helvetia