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Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources Oregon State Capitol 900 Court Street NE Salem, OR 97301

RE: Opposition to HB 3024 – Additional Testimony

Dear Committee Members:

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

- 1. We continue to oppose HB 3024 and have numerous concerns about possible Legislative action to overturn the 2013 agreement reached with HB 2746 in 2013.
- 2. Marion County has approved approximately 12 applications in the last few years. These were approved under the current statute. According to the planning department only one applicant failed to show proof of property tax payments, but there were many others that were turned away because of their inability to provide adequate tax documentation.
- 3. The recent Supreme Court decision found against the applicant and the Court's decision was quite clear about their opinion.
- 4. The Legislature is making changes to statutory laws for the convenience of one party resulting in further weakening of SB 100. This bill is sponsored by a Legislator representing a district very far removed from the county in which this case was filed.
- 5. The proposed dwellings to be built have very little to do with farm practice but will, most likely, become rental properties. The applicant did not offer nor did the Committee inquire about the background of the property owners, their farm income, and any other factual matter concerning this case.
- 6. Please deny this amendment and abide by the Supreme Court decision. This session of the Legislature has already heard and provided far too many special favors for individual applicants. It's now time to halt this egregious practice and protect SB 100. **Please vote "No" on HB 3024.**

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c: Jason Miner, Office of the Governor Sen. Peter Courtney, President of the Senate Rep. Tina Kotek, Speaker of the House Sen. Michael Dembrow Rep. Brian Clem