

March 3, 2021

House Committee on Rules
Oregon State Capital
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: "Yes" on HB 2560

Dear Chair Warner and Members of the House Committee on Rules

Please vote Yes on HB 2560. For our democracy to work well, citizens need to be involved with their government. During this pandemic, many of us have become comfortable with virtual meetings and have taken advantage of this technology to participate in public meetings and hearings.

Many public meetings and hearings occur after dark, especially during the winter months. I live in a rural area of Linn County and it takes about an hour to drive to Albany, the county seat of Linn County. I am not likely to drive that distance after dark, especially if the weather is bad.

As a rural landowner, some of the most important public meetings for us involve land use decisions that can have a major impact on our lives. Goal 1 of Oregon's Statewide Land Use Planning Goals is Citizen Involvement. This purpose of this goal is to develop a citizen involvement program that ensures the opportunity for citizens to be involved in all phases of the planning process. Passage of HB 2560 will be a significant step towards providing that opportunity.

I want to be an engaged citizen and I will continue to take advantage of remote access to public meetings and hearings as long as it is available. Please support citizen involvement with their government and vote Yes on HB 2560.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Phillip Callaway".

Phillip Callaway
Crawfordsville, OR