

Submitter: Jeanne Roy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing
Measure: HB4118

Dear Committee:

I have lived in Oregon about 65 years and know how important our land use laws are. One only needs to go up to Washington to see the sprawl we have avoided. One of the most important aspects of our land use law is saving farmland for growing food. Especially, as California becomes water deficient, our farmland must be preserved.

Please vote against a bill that allows a private landowner to request that a city expand its urban growth boundary into a city's urban reserve, by up to 100 acres for "workforce housing" and/or "workforce commercial" uses without going through the land use planning process. This would circumvent the public process by which urban reserves were designated.

Also, vote against the -1 amendment, which establishes the "Task Force on Barriers to Housing, Industrial and Manufacturing Development." It has an obvious bias toward expanding UGBs.

Yes, we need more diverse and affordable housing in every neighborhood, but we must not sacrifice farmland to achieve this.