

January 30, 2023

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Semiconductors,

I am a farmer from North Plains, Washington County and reside at 34203 NW Mountindale Rd. Co-owner of Duyck Family Farm LLC with my daughter Jacqueline Duyck Jones.

I am strongly opposed to the development of any land designated as Rural Reserves.

The Oregon Legislature approved SB 1011 in 2007. It allowed Metro to establish what would be Rural Reserves and what would be Urban Reserves for the next 40-50 years to replace the every five to seven-year process that the cities, counties and metro, as well as citizens were going through.

Washington County did not follow the process intended in the bill and did not follow the law.

At one Washington County reserve meeting, Representative Clem was present and explained the intent of the bill and how the other two counties were doing their process. Washington County didn't listen or care what Representative Clem had to say. This pattern by Washington County continued even when the State of Oregon agencies made their recommendations; one was to look at natural buffers to protect farm ground. Then Washington County decided to add their own category of land not in the bill called "undesigned".

This resulted in several legal appeals which Washington County lost. Washington County was told to start over which would delay the total process and add several more years as well as expense. The impact wasn't just to Washington County but to the total process that Metro, Clackamas and Multnomah Counties had been working on as well. This led to Representatives Clem and Unger leading negotiations between the Counties, Cities, 1000 Friends of Oregon, the Home Builders Association, Oregon Farm Bureau, Legislators and Farmers; this became known as the Grand Bargain that session.

It was not a "grand bargain" for any of the parties involved.  
This was a deal based upon the negotiations.

Washington County gave up some but got land into the UGB immediately. The farmers got some of the natural buffers that were originally proposed by the state agencies and security. This was finalized and agreements signed in 2014 by the Counties, Metro, Legislature and the Governor.

As a farmer, when I make a deal with a handshake or a contract, I keep it.  
I ask that the current Legislators keep the deal for your Constituents and Oregonians.  
A deal is a deal or we have no trust between parties.

Larry Duyck