

January 30, 2023

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Semiconductors,

My name is Dave Vanasche and I reside at 36130 NW Wren Rd. Cornelius, Oregon 97113.

My family (Dave, Ellen & son Mark Vanasche) own and operate Vanasche Farm LLC, which is a 2350-acre Century Family Farm (1896) in Washington County which grows and produces hazelnuts, proprietary grass seed, clover seed and wheat (1028 acres owned and 1322 acres leased). Senate Bill 100 and Oregon's land use plan has allowed our farm thrive.

Please, do not legislate any use of the Rural Reserves!

My family is blessed to own 1028 acres of rural reserve high value farmland which is within 3 miles of an urban reserve boundary including farmland in the Helvetia area. Because of my lifetime of investment and agricultural interest in the conservation of natural resource lands, I was appointed and served 5 years on the Metro Urban-Rural Reserves Policy, Rules and Guideline Committee and the Washington County Coordinating Committee. On the Coordinating Committee there were 15 urban (city and county representatives) and 2 rural farmland representatives with one vote; we asked for 15 rural representatives to deaf ears! Every time we voted on high value farmland which legally should have been identified as rural reserve, the vote was 15 to 1, with agriculture losing. Such was the case with the 1700 acres included in HB 4075, land north of Cornelius and Forest Grove, North Plains, Banks and other areas in Washington County.

Washington County did not follow the law when it designated reserves and illegally created some urban reserves. I was part of the appeal and I participated in and agreed to the 'Grand Bargain', along with the affected cities and Washington County. To re-open this issue through the Legislature is disgusting and a breach of trust to the citizens, volunteers and government members of countless committees, who spent 1000's of hours involved in the 'Big Look', 50 year Urban-Rural Reserve process.

The world isn't making any more land. Farmers have the ability to plan for the long-term viability of their farms because of the grand bargain. Washington County agriculture (farms and forest) is a carbon-sequestering, sustainable natural resource and an "Economic Engine" of Oregon.

Washington County's rural reserves land and its infrastructures, including equipment, chemical and fertilizer dealerships, food processors, fabrication and repair facilities, hardware and irrigation suppliers have created an "Agricultural Business Hub" for NW Oregon and SW Washington farmers. Vanasche Farm's grass seed (1500 acres) is cleaned, bagged, tested and stored for shipment to all parts of the world, at Vanderzanden Farms, which is located in the present Rural Reserve.

Natural Resource producers from North Yamhill, Tillamook, Clatsop, Columbia and Multnomah Counties and SW Washington, use and are dependent on the agricultural infrastructure in Washington County. We must ensure, protect, maintain and enhance our Rural Reserve land mass, in order to sustain agriculture's vital infrastructure in Washington County.

Washington County (Tualatin Valley) and the Willamette Valley is an agricultural "Garden of Eden", with an inter-coastal moderate climate on the 45<sup>th</sup> parallel, deep soils (the Missoula flood deposited the best soils in Washington County and the Northern Willamette Valley) and 37 inches of rainfall per year. This agricultural valley is the envy of the world! Our region is the proprietary grass and clover seed production capital of the world with a moderate climate and 2 dry day summer months for harvest. Oregon State University is directly involved in many aspects of crop research and production. We are blessed to be able to farm in a region free of severe weather events.

The hazelnut industry is booming, multiplying from 30,000 acres to 80,000 acres in less than 10 years. This valley has the ability to grow over 200 crops and its ability to change crops has allowed it to weather economic downturns while other areas of the world have greatly suffered.

In summary; I am a farmer, an environmentalist, a conservationist and a Christian. My family's life goal is to leave this natural resource land in its best sustainable condition; not bury it with asphalt and concrete in the name of economic development and progress! Agriculture (food and fiber) is a basic life sustaining industry, which humanity can't survive without. We can't move Washington County's soil and climate to another region of the world. Washington County's agriculture needs to continue to produce food, fiber and livability for present and future generations of Oregonians.

Please recognize agriculture as a necessary renewable resource and respect the Oregon Court of Appeals legal decision on Urban-Reserves in Washington County and the life sustaining and livability effects of SB 100.

I invite this Committee to Washington County, among Oregon's top agricultural Counties.

I am happy to host an informational visit on my farm where we are threatened by poor land use legislation and to discuss further the consequences of semiconductors outside of the UGB.

Thank you for allowing this testimony.

Dave Vanasche

Vanasche Family Farm