

Submitter: Carol Macbeth
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

This bill short-sighted. Oregon is not unique in having an affordable housing crisis. There is a lack of affordable housing in every city in the United States, and indeed around the world. Since Oregon's urban growth boundaries did not cause our housing shortage or lack of affordable housing, this bill, that drives a truck through Oregon's renowned land use laws, will not solve it.

The people who need affordable housing need housing near downtowns, not outside UGBs! Diverse housing is needed close to work, schools and grocery stores. Those who cannot afford housing also cannot afford cars or the gas to travel to the sprawling development this bill will allow- for no valid reason. Study after study has proven that sprawl costs local governments far more than it yields in tax revenue. Sprawl is ugly, inefficient, does nothing to help low income citizens find affordable housing, causes traffic delays, and reduces land available for agriculture.

Governor Tom McCall was instrumental in developing Oregon's land use planning system explicitly to protect our quality of life. Please do the same. Keep Oregon the one state in the U.S. where you can tell exactly where the towns end and the countryside begins. Please protect the beauty and livability of Oregon by voting no on HB 3414.

I urge you to reject this ill-advised bill. Affordable housing is desperately needed, but this bill will do nothing to solve that problem. This bill is a thoughtless dangerous giveaway to developers for which citizens get nothing in return.