



*Protecting Our Natural Heritage
From the Coast to the Cascades*

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June 8, 2023

TO: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RULES
FROM: LANDWATCH LANE COUNTY
RE: HB 3414

Chair Fahey and Members of the Committee:

LandWatch Lane County is a small 501C3 organization that was established in 1997. LWLC works throughout Lane County to protect farm and forest land for farm and forest uses, and from unlawful development. We are not a lobby organization and do not hire lobbyists to do our bidding.

Since the -17 amendment to this bill surfaced late yesterday, approximately 175 people have submitted testimony in opposition. No one from, or on behalf of the HBA has commented on their own amendment.

Let's be honest – if in fact Oregon has some sort of housing crisis the HBA bears some degree of responsibility, as they have fought for decades to retain large sized lots for large market rate single family dwellings. Their successes emboldened them, yet the HBA will not be satisfied until farmland protections are fully and permanently obliterated. Their proposed -17 amendment is another step toward that goal.

LandWatch Lane County requests that you reject the proposed -17 amendment. Anyone paying attention knows there is already land inside UGB's that is not developed for lack of services and resources. Our cities already have a backlog of needs for new and upgraded sewers, sidewalks, water facilities, public safety, schools, etc. For decades Oregon has fallen behind in investments in needed infrastructure. The proposed -17 amendment adds fuel to the fire.

In this year of the 50th anniversary of SB 100, please do your part to protect our farmland for resource uses and from unfettered housing development for another 50 years.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Lauri Segel
LWLC