

January 23, 2023

To: Members House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural resources & Water

From: Aileen Kaye, Horse Owner

Re: "No" on HB 2487 – Wedding & event venues in exclusive farm use zone

Dear Chair Helm and Committee Members:

I encourage you to not pass HB 2487 out of committee for these reasons—

1. We need to retain all the EFU land we have left. EFU land should be used for things that cannot be done within city limits. Weddings and similar events can be held at beautiful settings within current urban growth boundaries;
2. Oregonians do not want to become like the Napa Valley;
3. If you look at the text of HB 2487, you can see that we already allow **far too many** non-farm uses on farm land;
4. The uses proposed in this bill urbanize farm land;
5. If eastern Oregon wants different land use laws, can they wait to see if they will become part of Idaho? (Yes, that is partially facetious, but I couldn't resist.) In 2021, SB 16 passed which was a dangerous camel's nose under the tent bill. Just as I thought, after that bill passed, more and more legislation for eastern Oregon would be attempted. This needs to be nipped in the bud.

Please do not pass this bill out of committee. Thank you.