

Submitter: Andrew Butz
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors
Measure: SB4

Dear Legislators,

As someone who's called Oregon home since 1971, I am very concerned about the land use approach in Senate Bill 4, Sections 10 and 11.

Rather than what the Sec 10-11 draft calls for, we can have a win-win-win approach instead:

- * Support cities' and towns' economic development plans that are already adopted through comprehensive planning;
- * Maintain our competitive advantage in semiconductor job expansions; and
- * Protect our farms, forests, rangelands, and watersheds.

But Sections 10 and 11, as they are, unnecessarily target our farms, forests, and watersheds for many harmful types of development.

The proposed legislation ignores our cities and towns that have done the right thing: zone industrial lands, hold onto these lands for industrial uses, and invest in their people and places as part of a bigger vision of healthy communities, productive economies, and clean air and water. We now need Oregon to realize this vision by investing in these lands as viable sites for semiconductor expansions.

Yet the proposed legislation also ignores that urban growth boundary processes are flexible and responsive to unanticipated growth. We do not need Oregon to reinvent the process, if at some point acreage becomes the deciding factor for expanding high-quality job opportunities. Between 2016 and 2021, 95% of the 37 applications to bring land into a UGB were approved – 83% without appeal and 80% within one year (that included 9 industrial lots). We must invest in and secure the zoning for the industrial land we already have.

So, due to these features that would undermine Oregon's benchmark land use planning process, please remove Sections 10 and 11. If they're cut from the proposed legislation, then we can have a Senate Bill 4 that actually helps Oregon.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,
Andrew Butz, PhD
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