

Submitter: Dale Feik
On Behalf Of: Hillsboro Air and Water
Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors
Measure: SB4

I understand the economic forces and economic need to act quickly to secure funding under the Chips Act. However, the legislature should be very cautious about expanding into some of the best farmland in the world and only under specific guidelines. I am not aware that there has been a demonstration of need to take specific land out of the rural reserves at this point in time since Hillsboro already has some land reserved for industrial development.

So, a meaningful criterion of need should be met before you give the governor the authority. I do approve that the authority be limited in time and to specific jurisdictions. If the legislature starts expanding more land out of the urban growth boundary we will end up with a lot of demand and pressure for housing and other kinds of development. It is a slippery slope.

Plants that manufacture components and do research seem to be a fit to our existing economy.

A caution – negative consequence of rapid expansion - high tech development may come with potential environmental problems.

The legislature needs to provide the money to fund DEQ so that Cleaner Air Oregon regulations can be implemented timely and well. The semiconductor industry uses hundreds of very toxic, corrosive, and flammable chemicals. The DEQ permits air and water emissions that allow the semiconductor industry to emit a certain amount of those toxic substances into our common air and watershed. Sometimes the semiconductor industry makes mistakes and emits more than their permits allow. Sometimes those permits are not adequate to protect the environment and public health. We need very strong regulatory agencies to monitor and regulate their actions.

In 2015 Washington County, Scott Porter, Director of Emergency Management Cooperative, started working on getting a County-wide Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) established. In 2022/23 the County-wide LEPC finally became operational with by-laws, elected officers; it is supported by the State Fire Marshal. Intel and a few other industries in Washington County are classified as being Extremely Hazardous Facilities. They are required to not only have site-specific emergency plans (around 40 such facilities in Washington County will have them), but also are required to have a Risk Management Plan on file in the Federal Reading Room in Seattle. Those describe the worst-case scenarios, and the risk management plans to deal with them. People who live next to hazardous facilities need to know

whether they should shelter in place, evacuate and/or... Most populated counties in Oregon are supposed to have local emergency planning committees by Federal and State Statute.

During my four-minute oral testimony, I said something like:

Based upon fairness and legal rights I am against the paragraphs that state: “.... This is not a land-use decision and is not subject to appeal...” this is not in the best interest of the people of Oregon and does not follow the many years of history.

In addition to the above that I emailed you Wed, March 8, 2023 and made oral testimony, I am adding:

From the testimony that I heard March 8, it appears that SB4

1. Upends the land use agreements and irrevocably undermines the trust and hard work that went into making them. Hundreds of professionals looked at hundreds of factors over years with public comment open to everyone and real attempts to consider the wishes of those most affected. This bill assumes that a single committee can, in a few weeks, do a better job despite not seeking public comment, not considering a fraction of the issues involved, and not consulting with real professionals on land use, water use, or soils.
2. Upends quickly a major planning process of the metro area to designate urban and rural reserves about one decade ago
3. Upends people power by letting the governor, she and she alone (Even though I have a lot of faith in Gov. Kotek and worked hard to get her elected) to have much power