

Submitter: Jeffrey Huffman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1051

This bill attempts to subvert the long-standing and thoughtful land use policies designed to protect the farmland, forest, and natural areas that make Oregon unique. It does so by allowing cities, at the behest of landowners, to circumvent the urban reserve planning processes in place. The result will be a haphazard UGB expansion that allows for any use without demonstrating an essential need. It will lead to urban sprawl at the loss of working agricultural land and wildlife habitat under the guise of providing land for housing. It is completely unnecessary as maintaining the existing UGB process provides incentives to create diverse and affordable housing inside existing Urban Growth Boundries.

As a native Oregonian, I reject these efforts to eliminate the established process for protecting Oregon's most precious environments and resources. I urge a no vote on this legislation.