

Submitter: Sarah Deumling  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure: SB1087  
Re: SB 1087

I am a rural resident of Polk County and with my family the owner/manager of 1300 acres of family forest land in the Eola Hills - surrounded by farmland in the lower, flatter, more fertile surrounding areas. I have been a supporter of Oregon's land use laws since they began and have watched with dismay as our rural landscape has changed over the decades. There are way too many allowed "non-farm uses" on EFU land. Each time an additional one is added those demanding it claim that it will be OK because of the "cumulative effect" requirement - that there will be no significant "cumulative effect" on farmland in the county. When does that effect begin? Not with one or two or maybe even five of whatever it is. Is it 10? or 20? but eventually the cumulative effect is very evident and one can do exactly NOTHING about it. If you say yes to one applicant you cannot say no to applicant # 25.

Along 4.5 miles of our rural road there are now more than twice as many dwellings and non-farm uses as there were 35 years ago. So much for the original intent of our land use laws. There is NO REASON to allow farm cafes beyond what is already allowed "in conjunction with farm use". Our rural towns and communities are crying for just such establishments and there they should be encouraged. In towns many more people can access them much more frequently and they will contribute to the very important sense of community we all look for, there will be less traffic on rural roads, less pollution from driving long distances, less demand on ever more precious rural water, etc. etc.

I beg you to send this bill into the dustbin of history and protect the agriculture and forestry industries that are, and will always be, (if we protect them) the bedrock of the abundant life we have in Oregon.

Thank you,  
Sarah Deumling  
Rickreall, OR  
Zena Forest LLC