

Submitter: Kathryn Jernstedt
On Behalf Of: Friends of Yamhill County
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SB1087

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and present information regarding opposition to SB 1087.

I am Kathryn Jernstedt, President of Friends of Yamhill County. Also the fourth generation on the Jernstedt Century Farm, established in 1891. While the bill ostensibly does not include Yamhill County it is consistent with the pattern of chipping away at the fundamentals of Oregon's Land Use System and the foundational concept of Exclusive Farm Use. It is the protection against "rapacious development" combined with the special property tax deferrals that has allowed our family to hold onto the legacy of productive farmland.

SB 1087 does a disservice to our cities and towns where these activities can be supported by infrastructure and public amenities. Businesses in the UGB are making investments in compliance with Oregon's Land Use Goals which have multiplying impacts for the larger community. The bill does not address adjunct activities like lodging, meal service, transportation, water, and sanitation.

There are tangible and intangible impacts on farm activities when nonfarm uses occur near active farming. Farms are not "vacant land" waiting for someone to turn them into something the investor deems useful. Commercial agriculture is a leading economic driver as well as noisy dusty business.

The facilities for non-farm uses compromise crop uses. Diverting existing buildings from their farm use or constructing new ones. Parking areas, whether gravel, paved, or mowed for fire prevention, are no longer suitable for crop production. Soil compaction can be inflicted in a matter of weeks but takes years in remediation.

The catch phrase "vertical integration" has been used to push the boundaries of concepts like tasting rooms, agritourism, home occupations, and bed and breakfasts far beyond the original legislative intent to the detriment of our productive agricultural lands. The bill is another assault on Oregon's Land Use Goals.

Thank you for your attention.

Kathryn Jernstedt

Friends of Yamhill County &
Jernstedt Daughters Farm

Carlton Oregon