

Submitter: Stephen Engler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1537

Much of this bill is excellent and needed such as: infrastructure funding that prioritizes affordable housing within existing urban growth boundaries, climate-smart incentives, the Housing Accountability and Production Office, prioritizing building in livable, walkable neighborhoods, however.

I DO NOT SUPPORT the unnecessary UGB expansion loopholes that push already-marginalized people farther from their communities and resource networks. We do not need large expansion of urban growth into productive agricultural land and the natural areas we Oregonians value so highly.

I understand that the current UGB is working fairly well with a vast majority of boundary expansions approved. I understand that almost all communities have a lot of unutilized or underutilized land for development that already has the infrastructure needed for development. We do not need to open large amounts of land to speculative developers.

I fully support the work of 1000 Friends of Oregon in their ideas for sensible land use in this wonderful state.