

Submitter: Chi Miller
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4026

Dear Senators and Representatives,

A large part of my decision to move to Oregon and to become a resident and home owner of North Plains was because of Senate Bill 1573 from 2016, which gave me assurance that responsible growth in small towns like North Plains would be allowed in order to support the projected needs. This promise would help maintain affordable housing, expand services, grow local retail options and bring more local jobs. In other words I moved my family for the chance to live in a thriving community, not a dying town. I am not a land owner, developer or investor. I am just a home owner that loves our small town. When I moved, I also trusted that all the architects of the grand bargain would abide by the handshake negotiated in 2014, which protected huge swaths of land from development, but still set aside a small but vital amount for community growth. I am disappointed that some members of that agreement are now reneging and trying any path possible to avoid honoring that handshake.

I support amendment 1 to HB 4026 as it removes the ability of individuals and groups that are not even residents of communities like North Plains to exploit imperfect language in SB1573. Many of those opposing this amendment have listed North Plains as their residence, but do not actually live within the City boundaries. My home value and the laws that I relied on when moving my family to this community should not be allowed to be unwound through technical legal maneuvers. That is not fair to me and all residents of communities like North Plains. We merit economic vitality and improved livability. The right to reduce our environmental impact through shopping and working locally. We warrant the option to expand the trails, parks and recreational choices for our families. Cities and towns should have the right to thrive through responsible planning done by those we have elected. The Oregon DLCD has worked tirelessly and is proven to be a model nationwide for outstanding balance across Oregon's agricultural preservation, recreational beauty and smart growth. A key tenant is allowing towns to grow their local economies in order support local living and reduce commutes. This has a positive impact on people's time and a positive impact on our planet. While I don't always agree with DLCD, I applaud their track record and results. Let them do their jobs without threat of never ending legal entanglements.

Please join me in support of this amendment that closes loopholes that are now being exploited by fringe groups that do NOT reside in small towns and cities like North Plains. Those groups do NOT speak for true residents like my family, and certainly do NOT have the residents interest at heart. Please protect the positive

direction and the express intent of the original Senate Bill 1573, from 2016.

Sincerely,

Chi Miller

ACTUAL resident and registered voter of the City of North Plains