

To: House Committee on Rules

From: Aileen Kaye

Date: 2-22-24

Re: "No" on HB 4026-1 Gut and stuff regarding a UGB Expansion

Dear Chair Fahey, Vice-Chairs Helfrich and Kropf, and Members of the Committee,

Please do not vote this bill out of committee. This bill and its sudden appearance is one of the most shocking displays of anti-land use planning strategies I have ever seen at the Oregon legislature. It is shameful.

The hearing held 2-20-24 on this bill was a real eye opener. The Chair of this committee seem to use as her expert witness the most avid private property rights/anti-land use planning lobbyist in Oregon. And when a very well-known farmer/land use planning advocate from Linn County was next in line to testify, she did not seem to even know who he was. It is no wonder Oregon is on its way to being Californicated with housing developments, super-siting, and the luring of huge manufacturing plants and data centers that destroy farmland and threaten habitats of flora and fauna.

A fight is going on in the North Plains area over some of the best farming soils in the United States. HB 4026-1 is trying to change the outcome of the May primary vote there. Totally unfair.

Please do not vote HB 4026-1 out of committee.

Thank you for your consideration.