

Submitter: Linda Galas-Merten  
On Behalf Of: CPO 8  
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules  
Measure: HB4026

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

You will soon be asked to vote on HB 4026-1. This Amendment, which replaces the original bill, bans referenda (retroactively even) on UGB expansions.

You are receiving myriad reasons for voting against this bill, but there is ONE reason, and only one that you must consider above all others: the primacy of constitutionality. It is against the Oregon Constitution. To wit: "...exercise of the voters of the initiative and referendum power under Article IV, Section 1, of the Oregon Constitution, cannot be limited statutorily. The Legislative Assembly may not, through a statutory change alter the text or meaning of the Oregon Constitution." (Legislative Counsel, Dexter Johnson)

Washington County CPO 8 (Citizen Participation Organization) strongly urges a 'NO' vote on HB 4026 -1. Aside from the very good reasons for a 'no' vote, if a bill is, prima facie, unconstitutional there is no point in its passage. Unconstitutional means unconstitutional.

Submitted by: CPO 8 Members (770), Linda Galas-Merten, Chair

NB: CPOs were created to satisfy Goal 1 of SB100 signed into law in 1973