

CPO-4M Metzger, Progress, Durham, East Tigard
Washington County, Oregon
8400 SW Hemlock Street, Tigard, OR 97223



March 4, 2024

State Senators

Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97310

RE: **Opposition to HB 4026-1 Amendments**

Dear Every Oregon State Senator,

For over 115 years, Oregon's model system of government has included voter-approved citizen initiative and referendum and recall powers. CPO-4M totally supports land use Goal 1 for citizen involvement throughout the planning processes. Please don't abandon the Goals and accomplishments of Oregon's landmark land use law. Voting is the essence of getting the most citizens involved in land use decisions. Voting is essential for democracy to work. We are pro-voting, not anti-voting.

We are very concerned with the amendments to HB 4026-1, particularly section 1, -5) which would diminish the rights of Oregon citizens by banning referenda on UGB expansions. We agree with the strong majority of testimonial letters opposing the HB 4026-1 amendments. (101 opposed -2 neutral -27 support)

The Washington County CPO Program, is made up of 17 Community Participation Organizations (CPOs) led by citizens with membership from the geographic communities they serve. Since 1973, the CPOs has provided a direct line of communication between residents and county government and has been dedicated to the success of community participation in government decision-making processes.

Sincerely,

Jim Long, Chair

CC: Washington County Board of Commissioners