

Submitter: Christopher OBrien

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1537

I am writing to tell you that I strongly believe Senate Bill 1537 must be amended to reject UGB expansions. Oregon's historic bi-partisan created land use laws must not be weakened to allow land speculators to destroy agricultural lands and the important rural and urban communities that they support. Important rural jobs, livelihoods, and Oregon's unique and irreplaceable landscape should not be sacrificed to develop farmland into unaffordable housing developments. There are already tens of thousands of acres of land inside existing Urban Growth Boundaries with great redevelopment opportunities for needed housing that don't require taxpayers to pay increased taxes for necessary infrastructure. In addition, there are tens of thousands of acres of vacant land designated for residential use also inside those existing Urban Growth Boundaries. Please amend SB 1537 to support effective housing action, not land speculator enrichment and agricultural land loss.

Chris O'Brien, voter
Polk County resident