

Dave Vanasche
Vanasche Family Farm
36130 NW Wren Rd
Cornelius, OR 97113

Sen. Jeff Golden
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire
State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support SBs 77 and 78

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and Members of the Committee,

I am a family farmer from Washington County. We farm 2,300 acres of grass seed, wheat, clover seed and hazelnuts near Cornelius. Of that, we own 1,028 acres and lease the other 1,272 acres of farm ground from about 30 different landlords. The parcels we farm are spread out over a 7-mile radius. All of it is high-value farmland.

I am in favor of SBs 77 and 78. We are in competition with non-agricultural commercial and residential uses for the many parcels that make up our farm operation. Allowing mega homes on farm parcels makes the future purchase price of that land for farming impossible because the home is worth more than the farm! These residential and tourist uses also create more traffic on country roads that we have to use to move farm equipment to all parts of our farm.

Without these bills our farm operation will have increasing conflicts with non-agricultural neighbors. The folks who enjoy the nonagricultural home businesses, entertainment venues, and mega homes now allowed in the exclusive farm use zone, tend not to like our noise, dust, smoke or the legal use of agricultural chemicals and fertilizers. It requires time and money to address the concerns of these nonagricultural residents and visitors, which cuts into our business's bottom line.

Please protect our designated exclusive farm use zone for farming, and reduce the overwhelming number of nonfarm uses that drive up land prices and create conflicts for family farmers trying to make a living. Vote in favor of SBs 77 and 78.

Thank you,

Dave Vanasche

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