

Submitter: R Foster
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3422

March 22, 2025

Dear Representative's Boshart Davis and Levy B. and The Climate, Energy and Environment Committee members,

I am in favor of your support for the passage of HB3422. Thank you.

Representative's Boshart Davis and Levy B. Thank you for introducing HB3422 and for the March 25, 2025 hearing at The 'Climate, Energy and Environment Committee'. Agricultural land's in Oregon are being depleted for other development zoning ever year. The overall thought is that there are enough of these AG zones to keep Oregon in Ag production. But with land use for large scale, commercial, profitable solar array battery storage and transmission line Right of way for energy generation, large areas of flat sun exposed WV floor acreages are highly prized. Ag Zone is sold for pennies on the acre, compared to the land costs for other places around the U.S. with large expanses of flat areas, and high number of days for sunny exposure, and with nearby energy transmission stations and urban and rural communities in close proximity to except generated solar power. EFU zones will be filled in if there are any wetlands and Oregon will loose large areas of Willamette Valley flyway habitat for migratory species on the valley floor with each energy generation facility cited in EFU zone within the WV.

Streaked Horned Lark inhabit and use flat sunny areas in the mid Willamette Valley. With more Industrial and Commercial Energy development, this endangered species will see more Willamette Valley Exclusive Farm Use Zone turned into more fragmented habitat, with smaller and smaller area's left that are available for this beautiful endemic lark species to use for it's winter and seasonal nesting habitat within the Willamette Valley.

Allowing all Ag zones to be subject to Solar energy installation zoning for Industrial and Commercial energy generation, Energy Storage and Energy Transfer corridor rights of way usage adds to the speed at which large, AG Exclusive Farm Use Zoning in the Willamette Valley, in Oregon will be able to be totally lost for Ag or wetland/grassland habitat restoration and conservation use on into the future.

Thank you all for your important work.

Regards, R.Foster, Corvallis, Oregon.