



VANESSA CORNWALL

Intergovernmental Relations Officer
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DATE: February 3, 2026
TO: House Committee on Housing and Homelessness
FROM: Vanessa Cornwall, Lane County Intergovernmental Relations Officer
RE: HB 4108, Relating to Annexation of Land Noncontiguous to a City

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Andersen and Breese-Iverson, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Lane County, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 4108 and -1 amendment. We wish to thank Rep Fragala for introducing this bill, and our partners in the Eugene Chamber and Better Housing Together for their advocacy.

This bill provides a narrowly tailored and pragmatic pathway for annexation that aligns land use authority with service provision, reduces procedural inefficiencies, and supports timely residential development within acknowledged urban growth boundaries. It establishes clear, objective eligibility criteria that ensure annexation is limited to appropriate circumstances, while remaining consistent with the intent of Oregon's statewide land use planning framework.

HB 4108 applies only to noncontiguous properties that are already within a city's acknowledged urban growth boundary, designated for residential or mixed-use development, fully served by key urban utilities, and accessible by public road. In these cases, the property is functionally urban—relying on city infrastructure and services—yet remains outside city limits due to historical boundary decisions rather than planning intent. Requiring additional hearings or elections in these limited circumstances can create unnecessary delay, uncertainty, and cost, without providing meaningful public benefit.

Lane County appreciates and supports the -1 amendment. Replacing “shall” with “may” appropriately preserves city discretion in annexation decisions, ensuring that cities retain the ability to evaluate proposals based on local conditions, infrastructure capacity, and long-term planning considerations. This amendment strengthens the bill by maintaining its intent without creating an unintended mandate.

Lane County also supports the language clarifying that eligible land must be connected to and receive water and sewer services from the city or a city subcontractor. This refinement appropriately focuses the bill on properties that already depend on essential municipal services and reflects common service delivery arrangements that exist today through intergovernmental agreements and contracted providers.

From the county perspective, HB 4108, as amended, also helps reduce jurisdictional fragmentation that can complicate service delivery, land use administration, and long-term infrastructure planning. Aligning land use governance with the entity providing core



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urban services improves efficiency and accountability for residents and service providers alike.

HB 4108 is the first step of many, allowing Oregon to address regulatory burden without sacrificing community oversight and local control. We look forward to working with our colleagues in and outside the Legislature on future opportunities to address jurisdictional concerns that may arise.

For these reasons, Lane County respectfully urges the committee to support HB 4108, as amended.

Thank you for your consideration.

ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED BY VANESSA CORNWALL, LANE COUNTY
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS OFFICER