



Date: February 3, 2026

To: House Committee on Housing and Homelessness

From: Association of Oregon Counties, Legislative Affairs Director Mallorie Roberts

Subject: House Bill 4108

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) and Oregon Association of County Engineers and Surveyors' (OACES) concerns with House Bill 4108.

AOC generally supports concepts that expedite appropriate adjustments to Urban Growth Boundaries and the annexation of land into city limits. However, it is crucial that as these processes are made more expeditious and efficient, the provision of necessary urban services to newly annexed property is contemplated and comprehensively planned for.

HB 4108 only requires jurisdictional agreements for the provision of water, sewer, and electricity. Annexation without contemplation of the jurisdictional transfer and urbanization of roads often results in undesirable "checkerboard" or "cherry stem" road ownership within city limits. HB 4108 would perpetuate this sort of disorderly development and result in the failure to meet the reasonable expectations of residents who live in these newly annexed areas.

County roads are not urban infrastructure and are not designed to meet the needs of urbanized communities. When areas are annexed into cities to be developed and urbanized the roads must be upgraded to meet urban needs like increased traffic, sidewalks, bike lanes, etc.

AOC is in the process of gathering additional technical feedback on the potential unintended impacts of HB 4108 from county counsels, planning departments, and public works departments. AOC and OACES will share that feedback with the sponsor and are very interested in being at the table for a comprehensive review of the annexation statutes to develop a concept that modernizes the process in a way that encourages orderly development and is palatable for communities statewide.

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