

Submitter:

Andrew Burton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4035

I would like to voice my support of this measure as a professional in the industry dealing with the economics that exist around the UGB regulations in Oregon. We have seen first hand how a combination of demand to be in this area along with artificial constraint of available space has driven costs out of reach for many local people. The housing crisis and homeless situation has largely been created by these policies. Cities need to have much more flexibility to expand their UGB to allow for as much development as the market demands. This will lower costs and values and drive affordability. Oregon has thousands of square miles of vacant land that sits largely unused. Some timber and some farming, but much of it unused. Our cities and rural areas should be allowed to develop more freely to ease the pain of this constraint.