

Submitter: Linda de Boer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1522

Dear Senator Pham and members of the committee:

As a rural resident of Washington County, I am writing in opposition to SB 1522-1.

From my vantage point, I see the promise or the results of superior farm land every day. Not everyone has that reminder of how important our soil is, but I do. So I would like to express my concern that if this bill is enacted, the value of soil will not be considered when cities expand onto new land. There are many causes for objection to this bill, but I would like to speak particularly about the -1 amendment.

There seems to be a national trend to distrust science, and I hope that we Oregonians can rise above that. Soil science is real. Perhaps because there is an ample food supply, we take for granted both its availability and its quality which is greatly impacted by the soil

Not only does fertile soil provide our state with a vital segment of the economy based on agricultural, it provides us with vital nutrients. My neighbor participates in research testing which soils and farm practices produce the most nutrients, such as vitamins and minerals, in vegetables. Samples are sent to Oregon State University for testing. We have both fantastic soil and science in this state, and let's do our best to keep them both!

Thanks you for work in the legislature, and for considering my opinion and concern,

Linda de Boer
Hillsboro