

Dear Chair Pham and Committee Members,

I am writing today to express my opposition to SB1522-1. Changing the prioritization scheme for Oregon's land use system is a short-sighted giveaway to developers in a state that has led the country in long-term land use planning. From 2020 to 2022, I worked as a contractor on the cleanup efforts that followed the devastating 2020 wildfire season, and spoke with many landowners-some of whom, including my coworkers on the fire, had previously lost their homes in California to wildfire. It's clear to me that by avoiding sprawling development, Oregonians have hugely reduced the loss of homes and lives to wildfire. We will never have a better chance to prevent events like the Paradise fire in our state than by not building similar neighborhoods in the first place. For the safety of Oregonians and their homes, I urge you to reject this amendment.

