



Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Housing and Development,

Oregon is an immense land of beauty, and in every direction sprawls a seeming infinity of farmland. This infinity, however, is only seemingly so, and in reality is restricted to the bounds of reality. SB 1522-1 takes for granted the rich agricultural soil upon which this great State was built, and in so doing threatens the very foundation of our community. I am the 4th generation to have grown up amongst the fertile conditions of this bountiful land, and I hope that I am not the last to enjoy her blessings. It is our duty as inhabitants of this land to defend her from the onslaught of death, and to enrich her life to the extent possible through human art. The Urban Growth Boundary is, therefore, a necessary protection against the undue expansion of death over our most valuable land. The effective abolition of the Boundary would result in an expansion of urban growth over the most pregnant parts of this land. For, by enforcing that "selection must not be based on existing land use or soil type," you open wide, and even necessitate, the defiling of our most prized possession: our *fertile* soil. You open wide the possibility of urban construction over farmland which has been tediously developed over decades. You abolish the imminent pregnancy which was once possible, and sterilize a once profitable and productive land. Furthermore, 13% of this State's GDP is gathered from the agricultural sector, which this bill seeks like a missile. Sterilization of decades of hard work, through the advancement of urbanization haphazardly, can only result in drastic economic consequences for the agricultural community and the State as a whole. For, in truth, the development of truly *fertile* land is no small measure, and the dominion over it, no small commodity. Therefore, as an Oregonian I strongly oppose the aforementioned amendment to SB 1522, I hope that all action is taken to preserve the protections of the Urban Growth Boundary, and I hope that the Legislature continues to defend Oregon farming and beauty.

Thank you for your consideration,  
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