

Submitter: Greg Mecklem
On Behalf Of: Eagles Nest Reserve Vineyard
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1522

I urgently recommend rejection of HB 1522-1 that would remove consideration of agricultural soil type and quality by cities in expansion of their urban growth boundaries. As a longtime farmer, I can tell you that this would be devastating to Oregon agriculture. The deepest, most fertile soils of the Willamette Valley are the flattest and most unencumbered by small parcelization because of their productive value and would be preferentially covered by development. It's imperative to consider soil quality as a prime determinant of urban expansion!