

Submitter: Bill Markt

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1522

Dear Chair Senator Pham, Vice Chair Senator Anderson and Committee members Senator Jama, Senator Nash, and Senator Patterson:

We are writing in opposition to SB 1522-1

- Our states land use laws are unique. Undermining what Gov. McCall and his contemporaries put in place 60 years ago for the purpose of creating more affordable housing is not a tradeoff worthy of this state's current or future residents. Looking further down the road, the consequences of not protecting farm and forest land will be regretted far longer than the near-term gain of a possible increase in affordable housing.

- We, the state's residents and legislators, both know speculative new construction wants to maximize profits which is a necessary business model for their success. The end result of cheaper land is greater profit margin, not achieving the goal of more affordable housing. We will see cities always expand onto farm and forest lands, rather than onto lands already planned and zoned for residential or commercial uses.

- Finally SB 1522-1 upends many years of work recently completed by the Department of Land Conservation and Development and stakeholders resulting in the December 2025 Land Conservation and Development Commission adoption of rules implementing the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis.

We know the correct course is a no vote on SB1522-1

Sincerely,

Carol and Bill Markt