

Submitter: Barbara Talley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1522

Dear Senate Committee on Housing and Development,

I'm writing today to oppose 1522-1, specifically the amendment that removes the prioritization scheme for identifying land for urban reserves in Oregon. As a rural resident, farm owner and land steward, I'm dismayed and outraged by this blatant attempt to dismantle our system of land use, which has been the pride of Oregon for decades and has preserved premium farmland from housing development, protected watersheds and natural ecosystems, and conserved natural resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.

The need for housing doesn't justify this attack or others that have been made in the last few legislative sessions on our current land use system. In fact, it is in just such times of economic and political pressure that our established land use laws are most needed. Please don't give in to special interest groups that would erode our robust land use laws to destroy the amount and diversity of working lands in the state.

Oregon's agriculture and agritourism industries are essential contributors to the state's economy, and Oregon's undeveloped and agricultural lands are essential for the future of Oregonians. Please remove amendment -1 or vote no on this measure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Barbara Talley