

Submitter: Randy Tucker
On Behalf Of: Self
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

Chair Broadman and Members of the Committee:

I strongly urge you to reject SB 1586 in any form that purports to change the Portland region's urban growth boundary or the boundaries of the region's urban and rural reserves. You've already heard compelling testimony (including, notably, from Metro Councilor Mary Nolan) about why this is a terrible idea, but let me add a few words.

Managing the Portland area's urban growth boundary is a complex undertaking that needs to be managed at the regional level based on documented land need, not carried out by legislative fiat with zero analysis or demonstration of actual need. Metro has successfully managed the UGB for decades with a sophisticated, fact-based and regionally inclusive process. Yet again and again the Legislature is asked to intervene and override local land use decisions.

The Legislature has an important role in establishing the rules that govern local land use decisions. It oversteps its legitimate authority when it reaches down and actually makes those decisions. Doing so is both shortsighted and unjustified, and undermines the integrity of Oregon's valuable land use management system.

Please reject SB 1586 unless it is amended to delete any statutory changes to the UGB.