

Submitter: Betsey Nelson  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1522

Hello Chair Pham and Committee Members:

Thank you for your service.

I am writing today to ask you to oppose SB 1522-1.

This bill would remove one of the key pillars of Oregon's unique forward looking land use system - the prioritization scheme. This approach ensures that when communities figure out where and how to grow their Urban Growth Boundaries and Urban Reserves, they must consider a number of factors and balance development and urbanization with preserving our farm and forest lands.

Without such guardrails in our land use system, we would see cities expand onto farm and forest lands rather than onto lands already planned and zoned for residential or commercial uses. Oregon's land use system was created to avoid the kind of rampant urban sprawl that bedeviled California, and it remains the gold standard for thoughtful planning in the nation. We need you to hold the line on the barrage of political attacks on this foundational legislation to protect Oregon,

SB 1522-1 undermines many years of work recently completed by DLCD and stakeholders resulting in the December 2025 LCDC adoption of rules implementing the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis.

Please reject SB 1522-1. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Betsey