

Submitter: Grace Stonecipher
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, and for your considerations towards balancing the needs of people and the environment as Oregon's lands are further developed.

I appreciate Oregon's thoughtful approach to land use and I hope you will reject SB 1522-1.

This bill removes one of the key pillars for Oregon's land use system — the prioritization scheme. This approach ensures that when communities figure out where and how to grow with 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. One of my favorite things about living in Oregon is the diversity of ways that our land is used - farming, outdoor recreation, cities, etc., and it would be a real shame to let development interests get rid of this.

Without the sideboards provided by this critical part of our land use system, cities would sprawl into farm and forest lands rather than onto lands already planned and zoned for residential or commercial uses. I understand that people need places to live, but it's crucial to plan in advance in order to preserve the character of our state.

SB 1522-1 also undermines the 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.

Sincerely,
Grace