

Submitter: Nikki Hoffman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB1537

I Strongly Oppose Bill SB1537

Dear Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing written testimony on SB1537.. I ask you not to move forward on this bill. This focuses on short term costs and doesn't include the long term benefits to the communities. The money would once again have to come from the taxpayers who have been taxed out to the max already. \$500 million is outrageous and just another way to bleed Oregon dry. . Most of the housing seen today is way beyond affordable to the average median income of the people living here. This is not California or New York. Oregon taxpayers do not need more another burden of higher taxes period. WE are one of the highest taxed states in the country which raises the cost of affordable housing and owners are forced to pass their higher taxes onto the people, No wonder there is a high percent of homeless and people are moving who can afford to. The only people who would benefit from this ludicrous bill is the Homebuilders and realtors maybe oh and cant forget the revenue going to cities and politicians.

The urban growth boundaries were set in place for a reason and it wasn't to allow more housing developments. It was to protect the farmland, forests and other natural areas. These boundaries should not be spread further and further They keep inching over farmlands and they soon will disappear. A perfect example is already happening in Salem which is building more and more high end priced houses that most people can't afford and as a result sit empty. ..Oregon has always been a farming state, The Willamette Valley is known as God's country due to having the most fertile soil around. We do not want or need to loose family farms, our forests, or other natural areas, across the state. This is not a state full of concrete and strip malls . We are not California or New York and most people here don't want to be like those states. It always brings more crime, and drug problems like we are seeing already with more populated areas. The way this state is going there are a lot of issues that need to be fixed before adding more problems, which is exactly what this bill would cause.. The fiscal impact of this bill would fall onto the taxpayers, something we can not afford on top of the other taxes. Oregonians are the highest taxed state in the country, and don't we want more. People have been moving out of the state more and more due to over taxation and all the crime, drugs , homeless and no one is held responsible for their actions. Its getting worse everyday. So tell me why would this bill help any thing but lining politicians and developers pockets.

Please stop this farce of a bill in its tracks, by saying NO to this bill and the

destruction it will cause .Remember farmland equals food and crops for the farming industry.

Thank you

Nikki Hoffman