

3-13-23

To: Oregon State Legislature, Senator Elizabeth Steiner, Representative Maxine Dexter

From: Mollie Nelson, Multnomah County tax payers living inside the Rural Reserve

Subject: Opposition to SB 4

We are writing with **strong opposition** to any consideration given to moving land from rural to urban reserves like that being proposed in SB 4. We were both highly involved in the establishment of these important designations back in 2006-2011 via SB 1011 by participating in multiple public hearings, over several years, providing testimony in person and in writing specifically to support securing Rural Reserve designation to preserve farmland, wildlife corridors, and natural landscape features in our region. This was the most thorough joint effort we have witnessed in a political arena ever, where Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas County, along with Metro designed, wrote the plan, drew the maps and received the state's adoption of this regional designation for Urban use and Rural preservation in our region. Not only did this plan provide security for the proponents of Rural designations, but it also allowed and anticipated the needs for growth in communities, integrating housing, transportation infrastructure, including highways, bridges, and mass transit to properly serve the citizens of this region.

It would be incomprehensible to allow for any of this legislation to be "undone" in order to allow a manufacturing plant to be built inside the Rural Reserve when there is land already designated, allowable, and available to build such a facility inside the UGB. Any consideration of moving the 'lines' designated for Rural Reserves and Urban use invalidates the hard work accomplished in the past and opens the door for further crossing of the boundaries, going against the very core tenet provided the citizens from the results of the regional RR and UGB plan. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO OVERRIDE OR CHANGE the playing field. It is not fair to any citizen/tax payer, homeowner, business owner or farmer who were promised a plan they could depend on.

We support the testimony submitted by: Susan Andrews; Rod Park; and 1000 Friends of Oregon.

Respectfully,

Mollie and Ted Nelson  
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