

Submitter: Linda de Boer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Rules

Measure: HB4026

March 4, 2024

To the Senate Committee on Rules;

Chair Kate Lieber, Senator Tiim Knopp, Senator Bill Hansell, Senator James Manning Jr., Senator Elizabeth Steiner:

The thriving of democratic principles must be a top priority at all levels of our government. I believe that those principles are threatened with the introduction of HB 4026-1, now HB 4026 A. A further insult to democratic principles, is that this bill is now written to be retroactive.

Perhaps the hard-working writers of the UGB expansion procedures did not foresee a situation quite like the North Plains council and mayor's unvetted plan to destroy so much farmland. This is not a reason to attempt to deny a referendum. Yet it is a reason to celebrate the voice of the people ensuring that our democratic principles are honored.

Please take the time in this busy short session to fully examine both the threats to our democracy and the the threats to our valuable farmland introduced by HB 4026A.

Thank you for your consideration and your service to our Oregon,

Linda de Boer

Rural Washington County