

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

Dear Senate Committee on Housing and Development,

I write in deep opposition to SB 1522-1 because it greatly undermines our state economic resources, the successful growth of cities, and Oregon community priorities and existing land use laws.

As a state growing in popularity, it is imperative that we be strategic about where and how growth occurs. Our local and regional governments need guidance around smart growth principles to create successful and desirable communities and protect high value farmland and other natural resources. Our land use laws are an ongoing opportunity to provide such guidance so that we may prosper.

SB 1522-1 would upend the much needed guidance we already have (and need more of) because:

1.) It 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.

2.) Without the sideboards provided by this critical part of 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.

3.) It upends 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.

I've appreciated this opportunity to weigh in and I thank you for your consideration! With so many priorities in front of us, I hope you will reject SB 1522-1.

Sincerely,

Joanna Malaczynski