

Dear Senate Committee on Energy and Environment,

I am writing to express my support for SB 16. As an owner in an Oregon-based company, Snake River Produce, when I came to this valley over 20 years ago - I could not find housing to my liking on the Oregon side of the border. Since my family and I have moved from Utah to Idaho, we have looked for small-acreage lots, in rural-residential areas in Oregon, many times. I have never been able to find any such locations in Oregon, but ultimately have continued to stay in Idaho due to the availability of land and housing in Idaho. As a professional executive owning and managing an agricultural-based company in Oregon, I would enjoy the opportunity to live in Oregon and support the community in which our business is held. This has not been the case. As a result, our very involved and talented son attended school in Idaho, we then supported the endeavors of that school time and time again with our time, talents, and funding. Additionally, we attend church in Idaho, eat out in restaurants in Idaho (pre-COVID), and generally do the majority of our personal business in Idaho. I encourage you to give the Border Region a fighting chance by allowing a small number of acres - 200 to be given the opportunity to transform into rural residential. At most, that would give far Eastern Oregon 100 new families, to live and work, to become involved, to participate in community events, and support one another - and what a blessing that would be, perhaps we would find a spot for ourselves in Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kay Riley, General Manager
Snake River Produce Co., LLC