

Submitter: J Roger Hamlin
On Behalf Of: Myself
Committee: House Committee On Housing
Measure: HB4118

I am writing to you to ask that the Committee vote NO on HB 4118 and the -1 amendment.

The original HB 4118 was well intentioned to provide more "workforce" housing. However, it unnecessarily pits two good things against one another: housing and farmland. HB 4118 provides that a private landowner may request that a city expand its urban growth boundary into a city's urban reserve, by up to 100 acres for workforce housing and/or workforce commercial uses without going through the land use planning process.

Some significant problems with the -1 amendment:

- * The scope is much too broad
- * It describes a multitude of possible tools to be evaluated, each of which could also merit its own task force.
- * The task force membership is skewed towards landowners, developers and local governments. This lacks representation for Commercial Ag interest.
- * The bill language indicates a bias for single-family housing zoning, an attempt to undermine middle housing and higher density housing, ad a push towards expanding UGBs.

HB 4118 risks distracting all of us from taking real actions to increase diverse and affordable housing options where people need and want to live, inside UGBs - near work, school, shopping and more.

HB 4118, also, ignores the need for infrastructure extension.