

Submitter: Claudia Munk
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB77

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 77 and SB 78. I urge you to oppose these bills.

As an Oregonian, I believe SB 77 and SB 78 would have negative consequences for agricultural and forest lands by restricting opportunities for economic growth and limiting the potential for rural development. These bills unfairly constrain landowners by tightening regulations that hinder diverse land uses, including tourism and residential development, which contribute to the vitality of rural economies.

Family farmers, ranchers, and timberland managers should have the ability to make full use of their land, whether through home-based businesses, hospitality, or other ventures that provide financial stability. SB 77 unnecessarily limits economic opportunities by tightening restrictions on the “home occupations” statute, preventing landowners from exploring alternative revenue sources to bring jobs and investment to rural areas. Similarly, SB 78 creates unnecessary hurdles for property owners by restricting “replacement dwelling” provisions, making it harder for individuals to improve their land.

Rather than imposing more restrictions, the legislature should focus on policies that encourage flexibility and innovation in rural land use, allowing Oregonians to adapt to changing economic realities. Overregulation risks stifling growth and limiting landowners' ability to make the best use of their property.

Please reject these bills and support policies that encourage responsible development, and promote a thriving rural economy.

Thank you for considering my comments and allowing this opportunity for public input.

Claudia Munk
Hood River, Oregon