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Dear Chair Phan and Members of the Committee

I am writing in opposition to SB 1522-1 and -2 amendments.

The hierarchy of lands considered for urbanization, ie. the worst lands for farming or forestry being used first, saving the best land for last, is the backbone of Oregon's land use system.

The proposed bill as amended would remove this foundation. The very reason why our land use system was created and put into place. Those irreplaceable farm and forest lands were being urbanized while other less suitable lands for farming or forestry were being bypassed.

Flat fertile farmland or forest land will always be easier to urbanize. Also, there is no question that flat fertile farmland or forest land cannot be replaced. There is only so much of this finite resource.

SB 1522 -1 or 2 will direct urbanization to lands we should be protecting for ourselves and future generations.

I urge a no vote.

Respectfully,

Rod Park.
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