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February 12, 2024

Chair Maxine Dexter and Members
House Committee on Housing and Homelessness
State Capitol
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 4063

1000 Friends of Oregon supports HB 4063, including the proposed amendments. 1000 Friends is a statewide nonprofit organization. We have worked with Oregonians for 50 years to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choices. We have long focused on statewide land use planning Goal 10, Housing, to ensure that Oregon's cities and the state deliver diverse, affordable, and sufficient housing in every neighborhood.

HB 4063 addresses several different topics related to housing; we testify in particular support of Sections 1-6, which require Metro counties to plan for the housing needs of Metro urban unincorporated lands. This was an issue left over from HB 2001 (2023), regarding how the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA) process should apply to lands inside the Metro urban growth boundary (UGB), and outside city limits, yet zoned for urban development.

It is important that these areas are subject to the OHNA program. Approximately one-third of the urban population of Clackamas and Washington counties lives outside of cities, in these urban unincorporated areas. They are also areas where stores, services, and more exist. Meeting the housing needs of all Oregonians means including these areas in OHNA's fair and equitable housing programs.

Rep. Dexter brought the necessary stakeholders together through several meetings to ensure that the language now before you accurately applies OHNA to these areas. We appreciate the work of Rep. Dexter, the Committee staff, and the other participants in this work group.

We urge you to support HB 4063.

Sincerely,

Mary Kyle McCurdy
Deputy Director