



March 5, 2025

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

Since 1977, Thrive Hood River has had a mission to protect Hood River County's farmland, forests, wild places and the livability of its cities and rural communities. We urge you to do the same by supporting SB 78, limiting the size of replacement homes on forest and farm land.

Over and over in Hood River, we see Exclusive Farm Use and forest zoned land purchased by those with no intention of engaging in farming or forestry. The existing home is removed and replaced under the guise of a replacement dwelling, often with a "McMansion". The value of the new house insures that no one will ever again purchase the land for anything other than an estate.

Hood River County is blessed with some of the most productive farms and forests in the state. It is cursed, if you will, with pretty views and proximity to Portland. SB 78 is an elegant way of protecting the farm and forest lands in this place we call home.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Robuck".

Chris Robuck, Co-President
Thrive Hood River