



# LANE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Joe Berney  
Jay Boziewich  
Heather Buch  
Pat Farr  
Laurie Trierer

DATE: February 24, 2021  
TO: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery  
RE: SB 405, relating to non-conforming uses

Dear Chair Golden and Members of the Committee:

The Lane County Board of Commissioners would like to offer its support for SB 405, and the dash 1 amendment. We hope you will schedule this measure for a work session.

Here is what we considered as we evaluated this measure:

- During 2020, Lane County residents experienced a double whammy of a global pandemic and an intensely destructive wildfire. Each disaster had specific implications for Oregon land use law, and the passage of SB 405, as amended by the dash one amendment would rectify the problems that have become all too real for a number of Lane County residents and organizations.
- Lane County has adopted a legislative principle that is quite specific; “Lengthen the existing 12 month window for post-re reconstruction to at least 36 months.” Section 5 of SB 405 would do just that, and would relieve so much uncertainty for residents who lost homes from the Holiday Farm Fire.
- As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic several Lane County organizations recognized that their inability to hold annual events and youth camps had significant land use implications. They realized that under Oregon land use law, the inability to demonstrate these events occurred could permanently affect their ability to hold similar events in the future. Section 3 of SB 405 would rectify that situation, and ensure that the Oregon Country Fair, Camp Harlow, and Grove Christian Camp, each of which operate in unincorporated Lane County are able to continue their operations once the threat of the COVID-19 pandemic is reduced and related executive orders are lifted.

Thank you for allowing us to comment on this important measure.

Sincerely,

Heather Buch, Lane County Commissioner  
East Lane County

ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED BY ALEX CUYLER, LANE COUNTY  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS MANAGER