

Submitter: Marcy Houle
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors
Measure: SB4

I strongly oppose the unnecessary and dangerous precedent-setting super-siting legislation, that is drafted in Senate Bill 4 (March 6, 2023 version.)

What is at stake? The soul of Oregon.

I hark back to the words of Tom McCall, whose legacy was Oregon's legendary land use planning, and protection of farm and forest lands.

He spoke these words to all Oregonians when he knew he was dying:

"You all know I have terminal cancer—and I have a lot of it. But what you may not know is that stress induces the spread and induces its activity. Stress may even bring it on. Yet stress is the fuel of the activist. This activist loves Oregon more than he loves life. I know I can't have both very long. The trade-offs are all right with me. But if the legacy we helped give Oregon, and which made it twinkle from afar...If it goes? Well, then, I guess I wouldn't want to live in Oregon anyhow."

SB 4 is the antithesis of everything Tom McCall stood for, and dedicated his life. With a swipe of the pen, it would allow the current governor to carry out "spot zoning"—a perilous situation for precious farmland. It is imperative that semiconductor siting not be allowed on EFU and rural reserve lands. Further, if SB 4 passes, it invalidates the entire reserves process, as well as 50 years of careful, dedicated, land-use planning.

I adjure you to reject, without hesitation, SB 4.