

Submitter: becky stephenson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1522

Hello Chair Pham and Committee Members:

I am writing today to ask you to oppose SB 1522-1. It's critical to oppose this bill as it opens the door to urban sprawl, which was the reason for implementing land use laws in the first place. I am concerned that this bill removes one of the key pillars for Oregon's land use system - the prioritization scheme. This approach ensures that when communities figure out where and how to grow with their Urban Growth Boundaries and Urban Reserves, they must consider a number of factors and balance development and urbanization with preserving our farm and forest lands.

Without these sideboards in our land use system, we would see cities expand onto farm and forest lands rather than onto lands already planned and zoned for residential or commercial uses.

SB 1522-1 also undermines many years of work recently completed by DLCD and stakeholders resulting in the December 2025 LCDC adoption of rules implementing the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis.

Please reject SB 1522-1. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Becky Stephenson