

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

Dear Chair Pham and Committee Members,

It seems there is no end to certain business attempts to weaken our land use laws, which have been hugely successful in preserving our farmland. My family has a cabin in Northern Minnesota. Every summer I fly into Minneapolis and drive the 3.5 hours north. Every summer I see more and more of the best farmland in the world being paved over.

SB 1522-1 removes one of the basic criteria for determining whether land should be designated as part of an urban reserve. Surely the quality of the soil is one of the more important factors in deciding whether land should continue to be farmed. And to slip this provision into a bill that requires the Housing and Community Services Department to study housing is flatly dishonest.

I note that there doesn't seem to be any name attached to this proposed amendment. Why not? Shame on whoever is attempting to do this.

Sincerely,
Karon Johnson