

Submitter: Janet Black
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2400

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 2400, HB 2422, and HB 2316. I am writing to urge you to vote against these three bills.

I have lived in Oregon all of 67 years. I have appreciated the land use laws that protect our farmland, forests and public lands. It seems we continually have to fight to continue these protections. These laws protect our communities and economy.

You must know that agriculture is our #2 economic industry - you must do all you can to protect it. These bills attack it.

HB 2400 is written to allow an additional home for resale on every rural property. This law is not needed for legitimate uses- there are already laws to allow homes for farmworkers and land managers.

HB 2422 allows counties to bypass land use laws, which are in place to encourage development where it costs less, and where there is access to infrastructure, and where agriculture and forestry won't be affected. This bill encourages Oregon to ignore the negative consequences on our valuable and precious resources.

HB 2316 would be tragic - allowing housing outside UGB's on public land, and requiring the state to pay for the infrastructure costs. A better approach is to look at the vacant land inside UGB's.

I am an Oregonian who opposes HB 2400, HB 2422, and HB 2316, which will negatively affect the agricultural, forested, and public lands that sustain our communities. These bills disregard existing laws, especially our land use laws that encourage smart growth and the protection of agricultural and forest lands that Oregonians rely on for food, fiber, and jobs.

Thank you for considering my comments and allowing this opportunity for public input.