

Submitter: Bob Goldberg

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure: HB3414

I am against limits on city government to deny variances on housing developments inside the UGB, and I am against the amendment to allow expansion of UGBs beyond what currently is allowed under Oregon law. Frankly, I am sick and tired of developers and other lobbying groups having access to my lawmakers when I don't have the same access or influence. Sprawl is already ridiculous in much of urbanized Oregon, and this amendment would make it worse. Local control and influence over property utilization and land use is important, so ordinary people can influence policy. We need the state to set limits on development everywhere, but the details can be worked out locally by citizen assemblies or other civic infrastructure. The limits are necessary to prevent further gentrification in the cities, while also limiting sprawl. The homeless issue will NOT be solved by building more towers, apartment buildings and cookie cutter housing developments. Ask the homeless! This whole issue should be brought to citizen assemblies statewide that could help councils, legislatures and other governmental bodies make better decisions without lobbying groups influencing the process.