

Submitter: Connie Peterson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1522

Chair Pham and Committee Members:

Our unique land use planning program makes Oregon, Oregon and why I am both proud to have lived here most of my 75 years and eager to do what I can to protect it. I am struggling to understand the number of assaults on land use that are being thrown at our Legislature during a short session. Maybe the proponents do not realize we are doing our best out here to defend against those assaults!

In short, I ask that you please oppose SB 1522-1.

This egregious bill removes one of the key pillars for Oregon's land use system - the prioritization scheme. Current guidelines 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 sprawl 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.

Thank you for your service, for protecting our Oregon, and for rejecting SB 1522-1.

Sincerely,