

Submitter: Ryan Miller
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4026

HB 4026A is likely unconstitutional and will invite a lawsuit. Please kill this bill. The City of North Plains has been extremely difficult to work with, and instead of listening to their residents, they lobbied for this bill to prevent their citizens from voting in May, and the bill is retroactive so would kill the right for citizens to vote on something passed before this bill was even thought of. It's so wrong and feel undemocratic. Getting 10% of a population to sign a referendum is very hard, and North Plains, I believe is the first to get one for a UGB. There is a reason for this—City Council will not listen to the people. Even DLCD wrote a letter to Washington County to point out that North Plains had several errors in their arguments and reasoning. We the people need referenda in the rare cases that a city government goes rogue or is corrupt. You have not seen the huge mistakes this city government has made.

Article IV, Section 1 of the Oregon Constitution states:

“(3)(a) The people reserve to themselves the referendum power, which is to approve or reject at an election any Act, or part thereof, of the Legislative Assembly . . . (5)
The initiative and referendum powers reserved to the people by subsections (2) and (3) of this section are further reserved to the qualified voters of each municipality and district as to all local, special and municipal legislation of every character in or for their municipality or district.”

*****This bill cannot change the Constitution—only an amendment to the Constitution can do that, not a statute.*****