

**Gregory H Macpherson
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February 28, 2023

Sent Via Electronic Mail

Senator Janeen Sollman, Co-Chair
Representative Janelle Bynum, Co-Chair
Senator Tim Knopp, Co-Vice-Chair
Representative Kim Wallan, Co-Vice-Chair
Senator Bill Hansell
Senator Kate Lieber
Senator Mark Meek
Representative Ed Diehl
Representative David Gomberg
Representative Jeffrey Helfrich
Representative Zach Hudson
Representative Bobby Levy
Representative Daniel Nguyen
Representative Nathan Sosa

Re: Testimony in Opposition to SB 4

Chairs Sollman and Bynum, Vice-Chairs Knopp and Wallan, and Committee Members:

The following testimony is provided for the public hearing on Senate Bill 4 held on February 27.

Following several terms in the Oregon House of Representatives I served from 2009 to 2017 on the Land Conservation and Development Commission, including as Chair for the last three of those years. I am now settled on the farm in Linn County that has been in my family for four generations.

I am a strong supporter of Oregon's semiconductor industry and promoting efforts to gain substantial additional investment in the industry through the federal CHIPS Act. I would like to support Senate Bill 4, but cannot do so as long as it operates in conflict with the statewide planning program maintained by LCDC due to its "super-siting" provisions.

Under the statewide planning program new development is to be located inside existing urban growth boundaries until that land is used up. UGBs are to be expanded only when there is a demonstrated need for more land. This system was established in recognition that farm and forest lands outside UGBs should be preserved and protected for the important contribution they make to Oregon's economy and Oregonians' way of life.

I watched the information hearing held on February 27 and was surprised to see a presentation of invited testimony focusing on only one location north of Hillsboro. The lands the presenters described include “rural reserves”, lands that were set aside by a legislative process a decade ago committing them to agricultural use for a fifty-year period. The testimony included the incorrect assertion that those lands are the only place in Oregon that would be suitable to new semiconductor development.

Your committee needs to hear from other cities in Oregon that have industrial sites available inside their UGBs. These sites range in size and include the 500-acre sites that have been called for to attract the major research campus the CHIPS Act envisions. The cities include Wilsonville, Corvallis, Redmond, and likely others. These cities have already gone through the deliberative process of identifying appropriate sites and assuring that services are available to them.

Do not let yourselves be stampeded with the notion that there is only one place that can meet this need. Do not substitute legislative action, or an executive order from the Governor, for the process that has guided Oregon’s land use decisions so effectively for fifty years.

Therefore, I urge the Committee not to move SB 4 forward until it is amended to remove the super-siting provisions.

Sincerely,



Gregory H. Macpherson

cc: Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS) testimony portal