

Submitter: David Mauk
On Behalf Of: Friends of French Prairie
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1522

I vigorously oppose SB 1522-1, in that 'having the designation of urban reserves under subsection (1)(b) of this section not be based on existing land uses or soil type but must be based solely upon' other factors is missing the mark of the greatness in Oregon's agricultural soils.

These soils produce some of the world's finest wines and nearly \$10 billion in economic activity for the state. Oregon is home to over 1,000 wineries and over 40,000 acres of some of the finest terroir in North American and the Western Hemisphere.

And it's not just wine grapes that prosper in Oregon's rich soils, but crops of all types, from berries, grasses, beans, hops, flowers, corn, wheat, and of course trees, that make our nursery industry one of the top three in the nation. Agriculture produces the food we eat, sustains tens of thousands of jobs, provides our Christmas trees, and supports tourism, as well as countless families and communities. It is one of the most valuable industries that is located in every county of the state. Tearing away at the fabric of Oregon's rich agricultural land by negating the value of it's unique soils, is a major mistake, and slippery slope to ruining a core attribute that makes our state great. DO NOT APPROVE THIS BILL. SAVE OREGON'S VITAL FARMLANDS AND THE SOIL THEY THRIVE IN.