

Submitter: Sam Lowry
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2422

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Andersen, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness,

Thank you for the chance to comment on HB 2422. I am writing to urge you to vote against this bill. I can't think of any useful benefit from increasing rural density in this way. My understanding is that HB 2422 would create sprawl by allowing counties to bypass land use laws to more than double the density of certain rural lands with case-by-case rezoning. It would bypass systems that ensure everyone has access to the planning process. Our land use planning program intentionally includes safeguards, encouraging development where it is less costly, where sufficient infrastructure exists, where people have access to equitable transportation options, and where agricultural and forestry operations won't be impacted. This bill would encourage Oregon to ignore unintended negative consequences.

Thank you for considering my comments and allowing this opportunity for public input.