

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

Honorable Committee Members:

HB 2422 appears to be attempting an end-run around Oregon's Land Use laws which are intended to preserve farm and forest lands from indiscriminate overdevelopment. HB 2422 would permit counties to allow case-by-case zoning across many rural lands, which on its face sounds sensible, but which will ultimately allow County planning to simply bypass the many safeguards embedded in the law now. It will encourage development where it is more costly and environmentally incompatible, without the necessity of meeting any of the current standards for additional residential siting especially outside the UGB. It will likely result in disorderly development on lands which should not be used for housing development in the first place. Additional housing development is most appropriate and should be contained within Urban Growth Boundaries where most communities have adequate land. Oregon laws and land-use planning already provide mechanisms for housing development which should not ever occur at the expense of irrecoverable farm and forest land.