

Dear Elected Officials

Our Non-profit Partners for Sustainable Schools teaches over 1500 4th and 5th graders every year in Lane County. Our focus is earth stewardship and social justice and to be assisting our youth to understand the interconnectedness of all living systems. As we teach youth about the protections necessary for healthy and just world it is beholden on us as adults to prioritize these values. With the current crises of climate change and the increasing local and national awareness of the systemic racism within our culture it is incumbent on us as morally conscious adults and leaders to be addressing critical challenges in all facets of our personal and collective lives. Our youth look to us to be role models with leadership to protect the future of their planet and to create a more just and compassionate world. I represent the youth we serve and teach with their families to strongly support HB2488. Land use plays a critical role both for the protection of the environment and its impact on those minority groups that have born the burnt of the air, soil and water toxins that our industries have released . It is overdue to have our land use laws have the highest levels of stringency in protecting the environment and working to eliminate the disproportional impact on minorities and populations of color. Our children are our future and so I ask you to have the courage to make this stand to begin to create a world that is healthier, happier, with greater equity for all its inhabitants. Our youth don't come into this world with discriminatory attitudes and disregard for the planet they learn these dysfunctions from us. Remember " Our Children are watching and listening " The 1000 mile journey starts with its first steps. Thanks you for your time