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Making Great Communities Happen

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Senator Diane Rosenbaum, Chair Senate Committee on Rules State Capitol Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Senate Bill 845, relating to economic development in the Portland metro area.

The Oregon chapter of the American Planning Association represents nearly one thousand professional and citizen planners in Oregon. The organization supports state policies and legislation that fosters good community planning. OAPA supports legislation that reforms state land use laws to improve their performance in achieving the statewide goals. This includes efforts that focus on improving planning processes for economic development. For the following reasons, as a matter of principle, OAPA does not support SB 845-1.

• The bill circumvents citizen involvement and due process, required by Goal 1;

• It short-cuts the requirements for planning for economic development, required by Goal 9;

• It benefits one property owner in the metro area; OAPA opposes "oneoff" legislation because it does not propose changes to state law that improve the planning system in Oregon for all communities.

However, recognizing the extraordinary character of the potential benefit to the Metro area economy, OAPA <u>would not</u> oppose SB 845 if it were amended to:

• Guarantee that any end user of this legislation would provide a number of manufacturing and directly related jobs significantly greater than that proposed in the original bill (500), and at least as many as originally projected (3,000);

• Include timelines within which this legislation must be used, preferably no more than 5-7 years;

• Improve the ability of a citizen to challenge a land use decision made under this legislation before the Court of Appeals;

• Ensure that if this legislation is not used within the time periods included, that any changes in plan designation and zoning revert back to that in place before the legislation took effect.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this testimony.

Sincerely,

Brian Campbell, FAICP

President, Oregon APA

cc: OAPA Board