



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF OREGON**

July 6, 2013

To: Senate Committee on Rules
Senator Diane Rosenbaum, Chair
Members of the Committee

Re: SB 845 with -7 amendments: OPPOSED

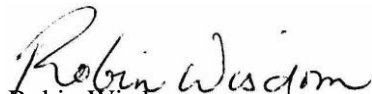
The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan, grassroots political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. The League supports our land use planning program, which includes addressing the needs of not only our agricultural and forest industries, but other industries as well. However, we do not support tossing out our citizen-driven system as is reflected in the -7 amendments to SB 845.

We recognize that family wage jobs are critical to Oregonians. But supersiting—overriding our land use system—reduces public support as they feel disenfranchised by such a process. It is the public who will bear some of the cost of infrastructure should this site be approved.

We understand that there are -5s and -6 amendments that have been offered for consideration. We believe that no supersiting should occur. But, if the committee feels compelled to pass some version of SB 845, these amendments at least protect some of our best farmland for our agricultural industry—the 2nd most important industry in the state. And Washington County has the best farmland in the world. That should not be forgotten in the haste to provide sites for speculative development.

We appreciate all the work done by the legislature this session as we move from recession to recovery. Please be sure we continue to honor Oregon's traditions of a good economy, side by side with good environmental standards. Our farmlands feed the world. They certainly feed Oregonians. We ask that you reject the -7 amendments to SB 845.

Sincerely,


Robin Wisdom
President


Peggy Lynch
Natural Resources Coordinator

cc: Richard Whitman, Governor's Natural Resources Advisor