

From the Pesk of: Rep. Brad Witt HD#31

Tom Chamberlain, President Barbara Byrd, Secretary-Treasurer

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Dear Representative -

Please vote yes on HB 2657.

HB 2657 creates a second look at our communities' important industrial lands before they are rezoned for other uses.

Organizations and legislators from across the political spectrum work each session to find ways to ensure that there are available, jobready, industrially zoned spaces across our states where industry can grow. The jobs on this land are often the economic bedrock of our communities - creating the non-service sector, higher wage jobs that we need more of in Oregon.

But all too often the best solutions cost money, and when our state or our communities don't have that money there is not enough we can do to maintain our industrial land base.

HB 2657 creates a second look at times when we are most likely to let good industrial land slip away by ensuring that landowners have tried to find an industrial developer interested in the land and by ensuring that the land really would be better used in another way.

HB 2657 is broad and maintains local control over land use decisions. It ensures that changes within industrial designations aren't covered by the standards.

HB 2657 faced no lobbied opposition, and no groups or individuals testified against it in committee.

I urge your vote in support of another tool for ensuring we don't lose the land we need to grow our economy.

Sincerely,

Tom Chamberlain President, Oregon AFL-CIO

A Strong Voice for Oregon's Middle Class