

To Whom It May Concern:

SB 621 is yet another proposed bill whose sponsor appears to forget that dwellings on resource zoned lands are meant to be 'in conjunction' with a farm or forest use. The only dwellings in resource zones that are allowed outright are those in the EFU zone when classified as 'farm dwellings' to be used in conjunction with farm operations. All other resource zoned dwellings are reviewed pursuant to conditional use permits (forest dwellings under ORS 215.700-.755), nonfarm dwellings in the EFU zone, for example.

Resource zoned lands are property tax deferred. The deferral is expected to provide a benefit to owners of resource zoned land, a benefit not available to all land owners, for purposes of maintaining a farm and/or forest operation. Rentals have nothing at all to do with management of resource activities, and should only be allowed in the rural residential zones, if at all.

The Oregon Legislative body has been reported to be one of the most compromised state legislatures in the nation. The corporate interests, special interests, monied interests are not elected, but the members of your committee are. Your responsibility is to protect Oregon from these special interest groups who would have the state go bankrupt if it was in their best interests. The Oregon legislature has continued to punch holes in Oregon's land use laws on behalf of special interests, yet there is never discussion in the fiscal impact statements regarding how much property tax the state has waived, in what zones, allowing what uses, and the effect on the state's fiscal solvency. This committee should think long and hard about all the uses the legislature has added as allowable in resource zones over the years and the how lack of enforcement contributes to unreported revenue that doesn't trickle down to the state but instead only benefits the pocketbooks of the individual.

LandWatch Lane County urges you to reject this special interest bill. It is time for the handouts to stop. Measure 49 was enough.

Thank you.

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LandWatch Lane County