

From: [KATHRYN JERNSTEDT](#)
To: [Sen Fagan](#); [Exhibits SHOUS](#); [Ross C](#)
Subject: SB 8 Testimony
Date: Monday, April 1, 2019 3:21:41 PM

April 1, 2019

Senate Committee on Housing

Oregon State Capitol

Regarding SB 8

Dear Chair Fagan and committee members;

My name is Kathryn Jernstedt and I live on the Frank and Anna Jernstedt Century Farm, established in 1891, in Yamhill County. Generations of the family have been and remain deeply committed to protecting our valuable natural resource heritage. Land Use was a regular dinner table topic and credited by my father for “saving the farm” from the pressure of development.

While I whole heartedly support affordable housing within our urban areas and understand that there have been some specific problem cases at LUBA I do not believe that SB 8 is the solution. The potential for unintended consequences and dampening the citizen engagement that are risks in the bill language and amendments is worrisome. Land use issues can be passionately felt areas of disagreement without necessarily being spurious. The law is complex and not readily understood outside of specialists. Citizens who may want a matter addressed but do not have the resources for their own legal counsel, much less the legal costs of the other side, will be unduly discouraged by the proposed changes.

The existing rules allow discretion on the part of the decision makers to award costs. If that is not being adequately followed or judgements not enforced that is a separate matter and should be addressed elsewhere. It is also inappropriate to assume universal access to electronic means of communication for citizens. Any changes or compression of timelines is likely to disadvantage the population needing to represent themselves.

Please do not advance SB 8. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Kathryn Jernstedt

Yamhill County