



## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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April 16, 2019

Chair Clem, Vice-Chairs McLain and Post, and Committee members,

Thank you for your time today. For the record, Carla McLane, Morrow County Planning Director. As a local land use planner I hope to provide you with a better understanding of why this legislative fix is needed.

In August 2017 Morrow County adopted the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) Multi-County Code Update bring both our Exclusive Farm Use and Forest Use zones current with both adopted Statute and Administrative Rule. As Legislators I am sure you understand that sometimes taking this type of action, adopting new legislation, has unintended consequences.

As a bit of history Morrow County has previously worked with local government to create parcels of land of sufficient size to accommodate various public infrastructure - a water tower in Lone and a waste water treatment facility in Irrigon as examples. So when Umatilla Electric Cooperative more recently requested a land partition to site a substation serving our farming community I was surprised to find that we could no longer achieve that outcome directly.

This bill does not propose to add new uses. What it does propose to do is make available the option for entities that provide public utilities to be able to site those facilities on a parcel of land that would be sized for the activity and could be owned by the utility provider. There are also limitations within the bill to limit future development using language from what is often referred to as the "mill bill".

I appreciate your time and consideration of Senate Bill 408 and am available to answer any questions you may have.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carla McLane".

Carla McLane  
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