

Dear Senate Rules Committee,

SB 10 is a great bill that could do a lot to address Oregon's housing crisis. By promoting dense housing development near public transit, it could also reduce sprawl, traffic congestion, and the resulting air pollution and carbon emissions.

But to do all that well, the bill has to include the Portland Metro area. Unfortunately, amendment SB 10-3 makes the bill exclude cities "within a metropolitan service district." (Section 2(5)(b)). In other words, the amendment would make the bill exclude the whole Portland metropolitan area. But the Portland metro area is among the parts of Oregon that most urgently need this bill. We have the worst traffic, the highest rents, and the most people.

Metro has its own planning process for transit-oriented development, but it's not promoting that goal as effectively as it should. In any case, Metro has limited power and needs local municipal governments to cooperate. An Oregon state rule mandating higher density around transit would be very helpful in moving things along.

So, please delete section 2(5)(b) of amendment SB 10-3.

Best wishes,
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