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March 2, 2021

House Committee on Rules  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Support for HB 2560 - Requires governing body of public body, to extent reasonably possible, to make all meetings accessible remotely through technological means and provide opportunity for members of general public to remotely submit oral and written testimony during meetings to extent in-person oral and written testimony is allowed. Imposes same requirements on hearings under ORS chapters 197 and 215.**

Dear Chair Warner and Members of the House Committee on Rules

Friends of Marion County is an independent 501(c)(3) farmland protection organization founded in 1998. Our mission is to protect farm and forestland, parks, and open space.

Friends of Marion County supports HB 2560. There are many reasons to support HB 2560. We will list a few.

**1. HB 2560 supports Goal 1.**

- HB 2560 invites the public into the important process of land use planning.
- HB 2560 invites citizens into the important process of deciding when and where low cost housing should be located.

**2. HB 2560 supports the protection of valuable farmland.**

- HB 2560 supports public involvement in rural areas where important decisions about the protection of valuable farmland are made.
- HB 2560 supports the hard-fought legislative work to both protect farmland and sensibly plan for future urban development.

**We hope you will make the wise decision to support HB 2560.**

Thank you for listening.

Roger Kaye, President  
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