

Submitter: Brian Doyle
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing
Measure: HB4118

I'm writing to you to ask that the Committee vote NO on HB 4118 and the -1 amendment.

The original HB 4118 was well-intentioned — to provide more “workforce” housing. However, it unnecessarily pits two good things against one another: housing and farmland. HB 4118 provides that a private landowner may request that a city expand its urban growth boundary (UGB) into a city’s urban reserve, by up to 100 acres for “workforce housing” and/or “workforce commercial” uses without going through the land use planning process. This would circumvent the public process by which urban reserves were designated; it would require cities to set up new, expensive structures to enforce “work force housing” restrictions; and it has unrealistic infrastructure provisions, among other things.

The -1 amendment would entirely replace HB 4118 with a new concept, which could have an even more widespread and adverse impact on UGBs.