

Submitter: Lindsey Stallard
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB3414

Please oppose the dash-17 amendment to House Bill 3414

I work for a housing nonprofit that places chronically homeless individuals into permanent housing. We acutely feel the lack of affordable housing, and diverse types of housing to fit a wide range of needs. Simply allowing for the expansion of UGBs will by no means produce affordable, or diverse housing; merely more high cost single-family homes and condos.

The dash-17 amendment allows local governments to once again avoid rezoning land inside UGBs – the politically more difficult, but necessary, action – to allow more housing and to remove unnecessary local barriers to development. With 70 percent of all housing and all residential lands zoned for detached single-family housing – the most expensive and land-consuming type of housing – we can and must build better inside our UGBs, by allowing even more housing types and more affordable housing. We have underused land inside our UGBs that should be converted to housing. For example, currently, we have more parking spaces for cars than we have housing for people, yet we have vast areas of underused parking lots and strip malls. We must make it easy to convert those to housing.

Please, do not allow the expansion of UGBs. I was born and raised in Oregon, and these boundaries preventing sprawl keep Oregon a beautiful and unique place.