

Submitter: Suraya Arslan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB437

My name is Suraya Arslan and I work for a non profit in Washington County that supports people in learning how to grow their own food in a way that is healthy for their families and our planet. While we have some spaces in a community garden in Forest Grove, our space is limited and families that juggle full time jobs, children, and other duties, often do not have time to travel to the gardens everyday. We see the change that happens when families start to cultivate and harvest their own food: intake of fruits and vegetables increases, they save money on groceries, and are overall more connected to their cultural traditions and communities in general.

Allowing families to have more control over how they use their land is a critical piece to achieving healthy communities in the State of Oregon. Hope that you will support this bill.

Thank you.