

Submitter: Stella Coakley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors

Measure: SB4

I believe that I understand the reason for the haste with which Senate Bill 4 is being advanced, I have grave concerns that it is not in the best interests of the citizens in many cities to grant the state emergency powers to circumvent existing protections which have served the state's agricultural and natural resources well.

Sections 10 and 11 of SB 4 would take irreplaceable land out of farms, forests, and watersheds for development. Oregon has an excellent and unique process for expansion of the urban growth boundary that already allows for designating industrial lands. Sections 10 and 11 of SB 4 bypass that process and do not weigh factors such as protection of high value cropland and our natural resources.

Oregon can provide sites for the semiconductor industry while also protecting our farms and forestlands. Please remove sections 10 and 11 from the bill.

Section 13 is also worrisome because the ability to declare an emergency could actually destroy "public peace, health and safety" to the benefit of a limited business interest. Why is this provision necessary?