

Submitter: Steven Fedje

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Semiconductors

Measure: SB4

I spent my 30+ year career helping farmers and ranchers conserve natural resources on their land across three states. Oregon's Class I and II farmland is some of the most productive in the world, and Oregon's land use laws stand out as a strong protection for lands that help to sequester carbon while providing food and fiber. While it is recognized that the state's land use laws present a dynamic tension between protection of farmland and economic development, there are many land classes that are suitable for semi-conductors, housing, solar, and other uses while still protecting the most precious farmland in this state and nation. This is where Oregon's current system is so successful. It allows for an agency and a process to make those determinations, evaluating economic development and housing alongside factors like high value cropland and protection of natural resources.

Sections 10 and 11 of SB 4 will take Oregon's nationally recognized protections away, opening the door for development across all land use classes. And shifting that decision from the agency and system designed for this work to the Governor will erode this system, opening the door for decisions without comprehensive evaluation.

Oregon can provide sites for the semiconductor industry and other important land uses while continuing to protect our farmland in the face of climate change. Please remove Sections 10 and 11 from SB 4

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