

I OPPOSE [HB 2062] and [SB 138]...Rural economic development is destroying Oregon's farmland.

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB2062/Introduced>

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB138/Introduced>

**"HB 2062 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Joint Committee On Tax Expenditures"**

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/275009>

**"SB 138 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
Joint Committee On Tax Expenditures"**

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/275010>

I Oppose extending the sunset for, "...property tax exemption or deferral for certain industrial improvements newly constructed or installed in rural areas."

Businesses will locate or relocate to rural Oregon because it is in their interests to do so. Property Tax deferrals and or exemptions should not be viewed as enticements and or inducements, they are simply "icing on the cake."

Rural Oregon is "rural" for a reason. Agriculture is one of the four sectors of the Resource Economy. The sectors of the Resource Economy are Agriculture, Forest products, Mining and Fisheries. The Resource Economy is sustainable, renewable and beneficial to the environment.

Oregon is losing its' agricultural sector and economic stability due in part to those who successfully implement tax incentives to induce and or entice business expansion and or relocation to rural Oregon.

Economic development of rural Oregon unleashes a plethora of threats to the environment and depending on the business is not renewable and or sustainable. Water availability for existing wells is of great concern.

As to the expansion of existing corporate farming such as, wine production facilities and forest product infrastructure expansion. I could entertain giving the affected existing parties the opportunities to publically present their case in chief but my default position is to protect farmland from; residential housing projects, the expansion of production facilities, parking lots and more heavy traffic on narrow, poorly maintained rural roads. There are many additional concerns.

[HB 2062] and [SB 138] as written, are too vague and ambiguous as to the "types" of businesses qualifying for the tax exemptions and or deferrals. Moreover, herein lies the rub, "What is good for the goose is good for the gander." Once the door is open for unbridled rural economic development who knows, what types of businesses will be qualified to receive the stated tax benefits.

Businesses invading rural Oregon should not be welcomed for any reason as a matter of policy and not born out of political expediency and or convenience to chase illusory profits.

****Check out the Testimonies for [HB 2062] and [SB 138] and note who supports this legislation. Will these folks financially benefit from passage of the purposed legislation? I sure will not.**

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Testimony/HB2062>

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Testimony/SB138>

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Mr. Oregon Concurr and says, "Don't tread on rural Oregon. God quit making farmland years ago."

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