

Submitter: Lorraine Gardner
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure: SB1537

Dear Chair Jama and members of the Committee, I grow nursery stock in south Clackamas County and am opposed to Senate Bill 1537 as written. Please amend the bill to remove the provision allowing cities to unilaterally expand their Urban Growth Boundaries. This provision is unnecessary and sets a dangerous precedent for further erosion of Oregon's unique land use planning program and the protections it provides for our vital agricultural and forestry industries.

This provision is unnecessary as our existing UGB's contain thousands of acres available for housing construction. Building inside existing UBG's is more efficient, saves taxpayer money and encourages smart, compact development, while protecting our fertile and productive farm, ranch and forest lands from urban sprawl. For the past fifty years, Oregon's unique in the nation, land use planning program has helped make our state such a great place to live, work, farm and recreate. Please support Oregon's agricultural and forestry industries and amend SB1537 to remove this dangerous provision.

Thank you,
Lorraine Gardner
Northwoods Nursery, Molalla