

Submitter: Zoe Bradbury DeSurra

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development

Measure: SB1537

Dear Chair Jama and members of the Committee,

I am a produce farmer in Curry 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 UGB'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. Oregon's unique land use planning program sets our state apart from every other place in the country where sprawl and poorly-planned development have gobbled up limited and precious farmland. Please support Oregon's agricultural and forestry industries and amend SB1537 to remove this dangerous provision. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Zoë Bradbury DeSurra