

Submitter: Lyn Jacobs
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: HB4026

Esteemed Senators;

I am a farmer and resident of Hillsboro Oregon with a farm just 5 miles west of North Plains. I am writing in opposition to HB 4026A. This bill should not go to the Senate Floor. There are significant concerns that this bill is unconstitutional and takes away citizens' right to pursue a referendum. Oregon lawmakers from both parties are moving to block voters from holding public referendums on whether cities should expand their urban growth boundaries. We as citizens have the right to oppose rules and legislation our elected officials put forward. The community of North Plains has spoken and supports a referendum which is on the ballot in May 2024.

There are many concerns with what the city of North Plains did by voting to expand the UGB by over 855 acres. North Plains didn't properly inform the city's 3,400 residents of its plans and hasn't provided enough clarity about how it would seek to develop the additional land. The affluent city – which has an unusually low property tax rate – wants to increase its commercial and industrial base, in addition to building more homes. North Plains leaders envision an enormous private data center of up to 92 acres and 10-acre warehouses within the expanded boundary, along with small industrial operations, to generate more tax revenue for public services. Providing housing is a small part of their proposal.

Please read this excerpt from the letter written by attorney Kenneth Dobson:
I urge you to prevent this legislation, HB 4026A from moving to the Senate Floor today it is very likely unconstitutional.

Sincerely;

Lyn Jacobs
La Finquita del Buho, CSA