

Submitter: Bianca Marcello

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2422

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I am writing to oppose HB2422.

HB 2422 would attempt to create sprawl from the outside in by allowing counties to bypass land use laws to more than double the density of certain rural lands. Our land use planning program intentionally includes safeguards, encouraging development where it is less costly, where sufficient infrastructure exists, where people have access to equitable transportation options, and where agricultural and forestry operations won't be impacted. This bill encourages Oregon to ignore unintended negative consequences on our precious resources. This bill bypasses the benefits of requiring counties to plan for additional rural development through the exceptions process, or through the Big Look provisions of ORS 215.788.-794, both of which ensure any increased densities will not have unintended negative consequences on Oregon's precious resources. These existing planning processes also ensure an equal playing field where everyone, not just well-financed individual landowners, have access to the planning process.

Thank you for your time and attention in this matter.