

Submitter: Jamin Giersbach

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2400

Subject: Opposition to HB 2400 – Protect Oregon’s Agricultural and Forest Lands

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Andersen, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and Members of the House Committee on Housing and Homelessness,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding HB 2400. I strongly oppose this bill, which would allow an additional home on every rural property, leading to the fragmentation of Oregon’s agricultural and forest lands.

HB 2400 is unnecessary and harmful. Oregon already provides multiple pathways for rural landowners to add homes for family members and farmworkers. Allowing widespread additional housing on these lands encourages short-term resale and speculative development, driving up land prices and making it harder for farmers and foresters to sustain their operations. Increased housing in these areas also leads to conflicts with farming and forestry practices, increased traffic on rural roads, and greater wildfire risk.

Oregon’s land use system was designed to protect working lands and prevent urban sprawl. HB 2400 undermines these protections and threatens the long-term viability of our agricultural economy, which generates over \$33 billion annually.

I urge the committee to reject HB 2400 and uphold Oregon’s commitment to responsible land use planning.

Sincerely,

Jamin Giersbach

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