

Submitter: Jamin Giersbach

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2422

Subject: Opposition to HB 2422 – Prevent Unchecked Rural Sprawl

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 2422. I strongly oppose this bill, which would allow counties to bypass essential land use planning processes and more than double the density of certain rural lands.

HB 2422 undermines Oregon's land use laws by permitting case-by-case upzoning without comprehensive planning. This unchecked expansion would strain infrastructure, increase water demand, and threaten the viability of farms and forests. Oregon's planning process ensures that development occurs in a responsible manner that considers transportation, environmental impacts, and economic sustainability. Bypassing these processes creates long-term problems for rural communities and natural resource industries.

Oregon's success in balancing growth and conservation depends on maintaining strong land use policies. I urge the committee to reject HB 2422 to prevent unchecked sprawl and protect our rural landscapes.

Sincerely,

Jamin Giersbach

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