

To: House Committee on Housing and Homelessness
From: Aileen Kaye
Date: 2-10-25

Re: "No" on HB 2422

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Andersen, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and members of the Committee,

I hope you will vote "**no**" on HB 2422 which allows denser housing to be considered a rural use. Requires that lands zoned to allow density of one or fewer dwellings per acre to be considered a rural use. Allows counties to rezone rural lands accordingly if the land is currently zoned for up to one dwelling per 2.5 acres.

I am a longtime member of the Oregon Farm Bureau, 1000 Friends of Oregon, Friends of Marion County, and more recently Friends of Family Farmers and Ag for Oregon. I have been a horse owner for 45 years, so I care deeply about keeping rural lands rural.

I urge a "no" vote on this bill because it **urbanizes** areas now zoned as rural residential. It creates urban creep. ADU's are already allowed in these areas. It removes the "planning" from our land use planning laws. It creates dangerous, California-like housing areas on rural lands. It endangers others already in the area by jeopardizing water availability and creating unknown conflicts with current rural uses. It is a sneaky way of violating the uses outside the UGB.

More housing in rural areas will also cause more car travel because the new residents will have to drive into town for work, etc. We need to concentrate on adding housing units inside UGB's where comprehensive plans have found available land for this purpose.

I urge a "no" vote on HB 2422.