



February 20, 2025

Chair Tran, Vice-Chairs Grayber and Lewis, and Members of the House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans:

My name is Sam Diaz, Executive Director for 1000 Friends of Oregon. Professionally, I have worked in local government and state government, working with multiple city departments, community organizations, developers, realtors to pass zoning ordinances, redevelopment projects, and grant programs. Personally, I am a proud grandson of a farmworker family who worked in the orchards, fields, canning facilities, and shipping and have asthma and..so I personally understand the different goals at play.

For over 50 years, 1000 Friends of Oregon has worked with Oregonians to leverage the state's special and unique land use planning program to foster connected, vibrant, and beautiful cities and towns while protecting farms, forests, and iconic scenic areas from sprawl development and irreversible conversion.

Our diverse membership unites in favor of legislative concepts and investments that promote smart growth in pursuit for a better quality of life for all, now and for future generations. **We see HB 3062 as one of these legislative concepts.**

We appreciate the Chief Sponsors' leadership and responsiveness to this cutting-edge issue that many states across the nation are trying to get a handle on: the ever-changing nature of uses occurring in industrial lands.

I also want to note my gratitude for the open line of communication and the dialogue with League of Oregon Cities, Association of Oregon Counties, and Planning for Healthy Communities Coalition thanks to Representative Tran's office convenings. We understand that the amendment reflects these conversations and that conversations will continue to refine the bill.

We wholeheartedly support the goals and intentions motivating HB 3062. We need to sharpen our ability to get this equation at the local level correct - both to welcome companies offering high-quality jobs to Oregonians and to protect the health and safety of Oregonians be able to simplify and streamline an existing land use process - zoning and zoning verification - for limited situations whereby industrial uses are co-located within 1000 feet of homes, schools, and care facilities.

Here are some core values and principles in HB 3062 we want to applaud. The bill:

- Takes a surgical focus with specific eligibility criteria rather than a blunt, outsized approach;
- It hones in and builds upon existing land use processes rather than creating a new, separate process;
- It shows a deep understanding and respect of the benefit from state legislation while also having deference to the role of local governments in zoning;
- It gets ahead of hazards, conflicts, and frustrations before they happen...reducing the possibility of lawsuits, nuisance claims, or injuries and fatalities.

For those cities and towns or industrial developers that have a response that they already have an approach and see great results in these situations where industrial zones border homes, schools, care facilities - that is great news. We applaud these approaches and take them as proof that this proactive planning is not only possible, but valuable from the perspective of cities and towns and industrial developers. HB 3062 wouldn't throw a wrench into the great work happening.

HB 3062 makes good, proactive planning the status quo. And for that, we urge support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Diaz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "S" and a long, horizontal tail on the "y".

Samuel Diaz
Executive Director
1000 Friends of Oregon

*/delivered in person at the Oregon State Capitol before the House Committee on
Thursday, February 20, 2025*

/also delivered electronically to OLIS on Friday, February 21, 2025