

Submitter: Robert Plata

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3062

Dear Chair Tran and Members of the Committee,

My name is Robert Plata and I am writing in strong support of HB 3062, Planning for Healthy Communities. I believe we must take public health into consideration as part of our land use development standards in Oregon to keep our communities safe!

I urge you to support this bill to update Oregon's land use laws to build public health criteria into Comprehensive Plans, zoning codes and permitting processes.

Oregon communities deserve protection from the harmful effects of urban industrial development. Pollution from these major industrial sites impacts air, water and soil quality and can have significant health impacts on kids and families. Industrial developments also create noise and light pollution and traffic impacts that can impact the health and wellbeing of nearby neighborhoods.

We shouldn't put industrial developments next to sensitive areas such as residential neighborhoods, schools, hospitals and care facilities. This bill requires that industrial permit applicants conduct a study and mitigate harm for any existing sensitive uses within a 1,000 of a proposed facility.

Current land use planning systems fail to work for communities. Public health should be at the forefront of land use planning, and not an afterthought. This bill would require risk assessments to determine the burden an industrial development would have on a community as part of the land use planning process.

We must ensure that communities are taken into consideration as Oregon's economy continues to grow at a fast pace. Economic development is good for Oregonians but that growth needs to happen responsibly and within a public health framework.

This bill protects generations of Oregonians from industrial pollution & environmental harms. Thank you for supporting HB 3062 to protect Oregonians from harmful industrial developments in the future!

Sincerely,

Robert Plata
Salem