



[SAVE HELVETIA](#)

13260 NW Bishop Rd
Hillsboro, OR 97124
March 3, 2024

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire

Support for SB 78

Save Helvetia is a private non-profit advocacy organization that has been active over 15 years to protect farm and forestlands in Washington County. We organized in 2010 during the Urban and Rural Reserves planning process, studying lands in and around the Helvetia area, submitting testimonies to Washington County, Metro, and LCDC. We then became appellants to the Oregon State Court of Appeals, prevailing in our citizen science assertions that the county and Metro had misapplied the law and administrative rules in selecting the urban and rural reserves. The court's ruling invalidated the proposed reserves and the negotiated result became the Grand Bargain legislation (HB 4078) of 2014. This legislation had unanimous and bipartisan support from both houses of the legislature. We have since become an affiliate of 1000 Friends of Oregon, monitoring and defending land use laws and principles in Washington County.

Support for SB 78

There have been occasions when replacement dwellings in agricultural and forest zones have morphed into non-farm dwellings. Guardrails have become necessary to prevent this so that the practice of agriculture and forest management do not become increasingly conflicted with traffic, events, fire risk, the inadvertent importation of noxious weed into seed croplands, among other conflicts.

Please help reduce these conflicts by enacting SB 78.

Respectfully,

Robert Bailey, Secretary
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*Advancing policies, leaders and actions that
protect Helvetia's treasured resources.*