

Submitter: James Babson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB77

Dear Chair Golden and members of the Committee,

I urge you to support SB 77 and SB 78, two bills that would provide some reasonable statewide protections for our agricultural and forest lands.

Our farm and forest resource lands are being continually threatened by more development, more allowable uses, more replacement dwellings, template dwellings, accessory dwellings, and hardship dwellings. Oregon's Land-Use Planning System has been under assault by development interests since it was enacted 50 years ago. We have seen urban sprawl infect our resource lands as our landmark land-use laws are continually weakened.

Goal 3 "places restrictions on developments that are unrelated to agriculture in order to minimize uses that conflict with farming." Goal 4 "places development restrictions on forest lands. These restrictions seek to prevent activities that could conflict with forestry practices." Please defend Oregon's land-use planning program and support these two common-sense bills.

SB 77 and SB 78 do not represent any new land-use regulations or obstacles to development. They simply clarify and fortify the intent and spirit of Oregon's land-use laws. I respectfully request that you pass these bills out of committee.

Thank you for considering my comments,

James Babson
Lane County