

## OFFICERS

Roger Kaye President

Richard van Pelt Secretary

Susan Watkins Treasurer

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Laurel Hines Carla Mikkelson Linda Peterson Kasia Quillinan March 24, 2025

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment Oregon State Capitol 900 Court St., NE Salem, OR 97301

## Re: "Yes" on HB 3422

To Chair Lively and Members of the House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Friends of Marion County is an independent 501(c)(3) farmland protection organization founded in 1998. Our mission is to protect farm and forestland, parks, and open space in Marion County.

We support the adoption of HB 3422 and request the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment to move this important measure to eventual passage by the 2025 Oregon Legislature.

Since large scale solar facilities can have a detrimental effect on the limited supply of high value farmland, **HB 3422** adds an alternative analysis to the standards that must be met before the Energy Facilities Siting Council can take an exception to a planning goal for a new solar energy facility.

The time is right for the legislature to pay serious attention to Oregon's farm, range, and forest land and the many resources those lands protect. Please stop the land speculation and conversion of Oregon's limited and precious agricultural and forest land resulting from unintended loopholes in existing land use statutes.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Roger Kaye, Pres. Friends of Marion County (503)743-4567 FriendsOfMarionCounty@gmail.com