



March 31, 2025

House Committee on Housing & Homelessness

Re: HB 2647-3 – OPPOSE

Chair Marsh, Vice-Chair Anderson, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, and Committee Members:

Friends of the Columbia Gorge (“Friends”) is a non-profit organization with approximately 5,000 members. Friends is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the scenic, cultural, recreation, and natural resources of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. Friends’ priorities include ensuring that development occur responsibly in appropriate locations and ensuring that Oregon’s land use system is upheld.

This bill would allow the City of Monmouth to depart from Oregon’s existing procedures to amend UGBs and allow the city to seek out a legislative solution instead. This is not a needed solution, and it would not be an appropriate use of the legislative process. Allowing this bill to pass would set a precedent for other cities to use the legislature to seek solutions to amending their UGB in lieu of using the proper channels to do so.

We ask you to please not pass 2647 -3 and not allow the City of Monmouth to circumvent Oregon’s established land use rules and procedures.

Sincerely,
Madison Kenney
Conservation Organizer