

Submitter: Patricia Hine

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3971

Dear Chair Jama and Vice Chair Bonham,

I have lived in rural Lane County for over 30 years. I am deeply concerned about how waste is being handled and strongly urge your support on HB 3971, which would greatly improve recycling and reduce landfill methane, a highly climate-damaging pollutant.

This bill will create a requirement for counties to approve land use applications for mixed waste facilities in the Willamette Valley as long as they conform with the requirements that land is owned by a local government entity, outside an urban growth boundary and in zoned appropriately.

We need legislative action to allow these modern facilities to be built quickly with supportive land use laws. We are running out of landfill areas.

To meet our goals to increase diversion rates, we must facilitate the process by expediting the creation of these integrated materials and energy recovery facilities.

A requirement for counties to approve these facilities under the rules of this act will allow these important projects to move forward with the haste that is necessary.

As a resident of Lane County, I am looking forward to our Clean Lane project that will divert an estimated 80,000 tons of trash annually from our landfill. When our facility is built it will capture around 90% of methane from our organic waste before it enters the landfill. This is climate-smart legislation and in keeping with Oregon's goals for a stable climate future.

I urge you to support HB 3971.

Thank you.