

Submitter:

Rachel Freed

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3971

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 3971, which mandates that counties must approve land use applications for the development of a mixed-waste facility on certain lands in the Willamette Valley. I believe this legislation undermines local control and the careful planning processes that are essential for protecting our communities, environment, and quality of life.

Developing a mixed-waste facility in the Willamette Valley raises serious concerns about environmental safety, public health, and the potential impact on local ecosystems. Such facilities require thorough review and community input to ensure they are sited responsibly and managed safely. Imposing a requirement that counties must approve these applications could bypass important local planning and zoning processes, diminishing community voices and oversight.

Furthermore, the Willamette Valley is a vital region for agriculture, tourism, and natural resources. Approving a mixed-waste facility without adequate local input and consideration could threaten these economic and environmental assets.

I urge you to oppose HB 3971 to preserve local authority, community involvement, and responsible land use planning. Protecting our environment and ensuring community safety should remain top priorities in land use decisions.

Thank you for your time and attention.