

Submitter:

Canice Solesbee

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3971

Good morning, chair Bowman, vice chairs, Drazan and Pham, and esteemed committee members.

I am Candace Solesbee, the mayor of Cottage Grove, here to express my strong opposition to House bill 3971.

Our city places great importance on responsible waste management and environmental stewardship. However, the current language of HB3971 raises alarming concerns. This bill would empower the establishment of mixed waste processing facilities enabling any government in Lane County, including our own, to bypass local zoning and land use regulations. My constituents have asked me to voice their strong disapproval of this provision, and I stand firmly against it.

Our community is committed to maintaining local control, transparency, and meaningful public input in decisions that affect our environment and quality of life. Mixed waste processing facilities can bring a host of risks, including unpleasant odors, increased traffic, and potential environmental hazards. These issues require careful and localized scrutiny. Granting blanket authority to any Lane County government threatens to undermine the thorough review process our residents expect and deserve. This is why I am here today — to advocate for the voices of our citizens.

We strongly urge you to oppose HB 3971. Let us safeguard our community's ability to make informed decisions that reflect our unique needs and value values. Thank you for your attention and consideration.