

Testimony in Opposition to HB 3971

Good Morning, Chair Bowman, Vice Chairs Drazan and Pham and Committee Members. My name is Jay Bozievich, a former Lane County Commissioner from 2011-2022, and I strongly oppose House Bill 3971.

Lane County's CleanLane project does not require special super siting legislation. The county's current predicament stems from a critical error: purchasing property in the Goshen area instead of citing CleanLane at the Short Mountain Landfill, as originally planned. Had Lane County followed the initial plan, we would not be facing this issue today.

As a commissioner, I helped develop the Goshen GREAT plan, a multi-year process to obtain a Goal 14 exception with extensive input from the public, state officials, and stakeholders. Approved by the Department of Land Conservation and Development, this plan deliberately prohibits low job density uses like warehouses and waste-related facilities because the purpose of the GREAT plan was employment. Specific language was included concerning employment density at the request of 1,000 Friends of Oregon. This is not about the zoning not fitting a new technology, it is about the low number of jobs per acre this use provides. In addition, the Short Mountain Landfill already burdens this community. Approving HB 3971 would undermine this rigorously crafted plan and disregard the community's voice.

CleanLane is not a unique project justifying such extraordinary measures. In addition, this legislation was initiated and supported by Lane County without a public vote of the Board of Commissioners in violation of Oregon Public Meetings Law. Lane County's misstep in property acquisition should not prompt legislation

that overrides established planning. I urge you to reject HB 3971 and respect the Goshen GREAT plan and Public Meetings Law.

Thank you.

Jay Bozievich

Lane County Commissioner, retired