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June 3, 2025

Senate Committee on Rules
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St., NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: "NO" on HB 3569 A

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, and Committee members:

Friends of Marion County is an independent 501(c)(3) farmland protection organization founded in 1998. Our mission is to protect farm and forestland, parks, and open space in Marion County.

We oppose the adoption of HB 3569 A and request the Senate Committee on Rules remove this measure from consideration by the 2025 Legislature.

The bill would require that when a state agency appoints an advisory committee as part of drafting rules to implement legislation, the agency must invite the chief sponsor of the bill, or the Committee chair if it is a Committee bill, or their designee, to be a member of the Rules Advisory Committee, or RAC.

We oppose this bill because:

- 1) RACs are charged with advising agencies in their implementation of that final legislation, not what was the intent behind the original introduced version of a bill.
- 2) HB 3569 raises Constitutional issues related to the Oregon Constitution's Separation of Powers, Article III.
- 3) HB 3569 could create a power imbalance by setting legislative interests against agency staff

AND,

- 4) State statute (ORS 183.710-.730) already provides that the Office of Legislative Counsel review state agency rules for legal sufficiency, including whether the rule is within the scope and intent of the legislature.

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The time is right for the legislature to pay serious attention to Oregon's farm, range, and forest land and the many resources those lands protect. Please stop the land speculation and conversion of Oregon's limited and precious agricultural and forest land resulting from unintended loopholes in existing land use statutes.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Roger Kaye, Pres.

Friends of Marion County

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