

Submitter: Mark Salvo
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4113

Dear Chair Marsh, Vice-Chairs Breese Iverson and Andersen, and Committee members:

HB 4113 would allow a county to site up to 960 units of housing on up to 250 acres outside an existing, locally established urban growth boundary, including on farm and forest land.

The legislation would create a regressive and unnecessary loophole in Oregon's nationally renowned land use system.

The resultant development would be exempt from compliance with Oregon land use law, and likely violate multiple state land use goals, including Goal 1 (Citizen Involvement), Goal 2 (Land Use Planning), Goal 3 (Agricultural Lands), Goal 4 (Forestlands), Goal 11 (Public Facilities and Services), and Goal 14 (Urbanization).

There are numerous and significant wildlife, habitat connectivity, wildfire safety and climate resiliency issues related to siting new housing on rural lands beyond city boundaries. The legislation also leaves unanswered whether, how and which roles cities and counties are supposed to assume related to management of existing water and sewer systems, and transportation infrastructure, and provision of new services, access, and infrastructure for the newly permitted exurban development.

For these reasons, I urge you to oppose HB 4113.

Thank you,

Mark Salvo