

Submitter: Susan Andrews
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Housing and Development
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1578

I oppose measures like this that create inroads and precedents to urbanizing our precious farm land. The basic values of our land use systems seem to be constantly under attack. I remind you of them here: Preservation: Strict protection of agricultural (EFU) and forest lands to maintain natural resources and open space. Urban Growth Boundaries (UGBs): Mandatory boundaries around cities to concentrate development and prevent sprawl.

Compact Development: Encouraging higher density, infill, and mixed-use development within urban areas to maximize existing infrastructure.

Housing Variety: Focus on providing diverse, affordable housing options close to jobs and services.

Community Livability: Balancing economic development with environmental quality, public transportation options, and neighborhood character.