



Senate Committee on Housing and Development  
Salem, OR 97301

Feb. 10, 2026

Re: SB 1578, 50-acre rezone proposal – please **oppose**

Dear Members of the Committee,

Oregon Coast Alliance is an Oregon nonprofit corporation whose mission is protection of coastal natural resources and enhancing community livability.

We write you today to strongly oppose SB 1578, which allows low-population counties to simply rezone up to fifty acres for urban-density housing in farm and forest lands, as well as permitting ADUs for every house in an EFU zone.

Both of these provisions would go a long ways to destroy the land use laws that have protected our farm and forest land for generations. It is extremely inefficient economically, as well as environmentally, to allow subdivisions wherever landowners desire, without planning for water, sewer, electricity and transportation.

Oregon needs affordable and workforce housing, but it needs to be in urban areas and existing communities, where infrastructure is available already. Not exclusive subdivisions or ADUs scattered on farms and available for purchase by those who can afford it.

This bill would allow land speculation to run rampant, as well as greatly harm our highly important farm and forest lands. It would also harm the important rural infrastructure network that serves farm and forest working lands, and the rural communities that depend on them.

Please oppose SB 1578. We need to approach housing methodically and in an organized manner to build the housing Oregonians actually need. This bill would do the exact opposite.

Thank you,

Cameron La Follette  
Executive Director

