



**COALITION OF OREGON LAND TRUSTS**

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February 16th, 2026

To: Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

From: The Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts

**RE: S.B. 1586, the Oregon JOBS Act**

Chair Broadman, Vice-Chair McLane, and Members of the Committee:

The Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts (COLT) is a membership organization representing 31 land trusts, soil and water conservation districts, and conservation organizations working across Oregon to protect our habitat and natural spaces – for all people, forever. Collectively, our members have protected more than 782,000 acres of land across our state.

Oregon's land trusts fill a gap in the conservation space - empowering everyday people to protect land for conservation, creating and keeping open space for wildlife, clean water, recreation, working farms and more. COLT and our members strongly support Oregon's land use planning system, which has protected our highest-quality farm and forest lands from urban sprawl and fragmentation.

**Many of our members are deeply concerned about provisions within S.B. 1586 that would circumvent our statewide land use planning system and the precedent it sets for other communities, special interest groups or individuals who want to advance specific projects outside of that system.**

Oregon's land use system is designed to support smart growth and economic development while protecting our best agricultural land, forest land, open space and natural resources. It does this while allowing and encouraging active public and community participation in planning, and sets Oregon apart from every other state in the country.

S.B. 1586 would bring 1,700 acres of some of the best farmland in the world into Hillsboro's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) for industrial use, despite the fact that the land is protected as rural reserve until at least 2065. That designation was a product of collaborative planning, compromise, and negotiation among local governments, farmers, businesses, and the community.

To override our land use system through legislative action undermines its strength, setting a precedent for future land grabs outside of the land use process. **Please stand up for our land use planning system and oppose the land use provisions within S.B. 1586.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Buttafuoco".

Joe Buttafuoco  
Executive Director  
Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts

