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February 1, 2018

House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Opposition to HB 4075 - Relating to the land use designation for certain real property located in Washington County; declaring an emergency.

Summary: Provides that certain real property in Washington County designated by Metro as rural reserve be redesignated as urban reserve. Authorizes employment or residential use for certain real property located in Washington County. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

Dear Chair Clem and Members of the Committee:

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

Our organization and its individual members are opposed to HB 4075 and request a "NO" vote since this bill would have a major negative change to our land use system.

There are many reasons we oppose this bill. We will list a few.

1. HB 4075 redesignates approximately 1700 acres of rural reserve lands in Washington County as urban reserve lands.
2. This bill is a bad idea in that it constitutes a super siting legislative attempt to undermine the careful negotiations that originally established the Metro Reserves map.
3. Washington County, and Hillsboro in particular, benefited significantly by having approximately 1000 acres added to its part of the Metro UGB by the legislative settlement reflected in HB 4078 in 2014.
4. The other Metro counties, Clackamas and Multnomah, will view this bill as an indication of the failure of the legislature to live up to the "Grand Bargain" agreements.

HB 4075 is ill conceived and a real threat to Oregon's landscape. We therefore request a "NO" vote on this measure.

Thank you for your consideration.

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