



February 8, 2018

RE: Oregon Conservation Network Opposition to HB 4075

Dear Chair Clem and Committee Members:

My name is Paige Spence, and I am the Director of the Oregon Conservation Network. The Oregon Conservation Network is coordinated through the Oregon League of Conservation Voters and is a coalition of nearly 40 not-for-profit organizations united to advocate for pro-conservation legislation and fighting policies that threaten our state's natural legacy.

Unfortunately, HB 4075 has received our highest designation of opposition, called a Major Threat. You have heard from Oregon Conservation Network Member 1000 Friends of Oregon the detailed reasons that they oppose this bill.

HB 4075 would undermine Oregonians' confidence in the integrity of the land use planning program, not just in Washington County, but statewide. This bill aims to upend a carefully negotiated settlement that is merely five years old, and was a commitment made by many stakeholders. The legislature passed a law essentially putting its stamp of approval on that settlement. The land in question is some of the best farmland in the world, and its farmers deserve certainty for their land and livelihood.

With that, I urge you not to move forward on HB 4075.

Thank you,

Paige Spence  
Oregon Conservation Director  
Oregon League of Conservation Voters