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Madame Chair and Members of the Committee, my name is Dan Holler, Douglas County Manager.

Douglas County has requested BDR 22-424 relating to the approval of an amendment or change to a County's Master Plan. The proposed BDR will give a local governing body the option to require a super majority vote to amend or change the Master Plan. The BDR also cleans up language within this portion of the statutes.

In 1996 Douglas County adopted a new Master Plan. To make amending the Master Plan difficult, there was a requirement for any change to receive a 4/5 or super majority vote by the Board of County Commissioners. In 1999 a requested Master Plan amendment was denied on a 3 to 2 vote in favor of the amendment (or simple majority). The applicant sued the County as not having the authority in state law to require the 4/5 or super majority vote for master plan amendment approval. The Court agreed and in Aug. 2000 the Master Plan amendment was granted via court order.

BDR 22-424 will make it permissive for a local governing body, in our case the Board of County Commissioners, to impose a requirement for a super majority approval for Master Plan amendments. An ordinance establishing this requirement may be imposed or rescinded by a simple majority. This provides a relief mechanism should a governing body be sharply split or should the community not wish to have a more stringent process for Master Plan amendments.

I am available for any questions.

Jan Holle 2-17-03

EXHIBIT C Senate Committee on Gov't Affairs

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