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Written Testimony to the House Committee on Energy and Environment In support of House Joint Memorial 7

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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Chair Bailey and members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment,

Oregon Environmental Council supports House Joint Memorial 7. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and Clean Water State Revolving Fund are essential funding sources for building and repairing the local water infrastructure that protects public health and the environment.

Federal dollars available for these funds have declined in recent years, and they continue to be woefully adequate to meet the need. These funds are particularly important for small communities that lack the financial capacity to invest in critical water and wastewater systems without these federal funds.

Oregon Environmental Council recently participated in a rulemaking process to update implementation of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. We are confident that the fund is being used to meet our state's most essential water quality needs.

Increased federal investment in these funds is necessary to ensure that Oregonians have access to clean drinking water and that wastewater is safely treated to protect our streams and groundwater.

We urge you to support House Joint Memorial 7.