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March 28, 2019

Brian Clem, Chair
House Committee on Agricultural & Land Use
Oregon State Legislature
900 State Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Clem, Vice-Chairs McLain and Post, and Members of the Committee,

Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District is the largest special park district in Oregon, spanning 50 square miles and serving about 250,000 residents in and around Beaverton, Oregon. Established over 63 years ago, THPRD's mission is to provide natural areas, high-quality park and recreation facilities, services and programs that meet the needs of the diverse communities it serves.

THPRD is submitting this letter to express our concerns with HB 3099, which would create a new mechanism for a city to withdraw from a special district – a mechanism that bypasses the current statutory process already in place for special districts and county service districts across the state. We have serious concerns with HB 3099 as it addresses a specific, local issue with a statutory change that has far-reaching, statewide implications.

Additionally, we have concerns with the actual method of withdrawal and what happens to the district assets if a city withdraws via the proposed method. Because of this uncertainty, districts would have to carefully consider planned capital investments and any sort of new annexations, or be prepared to deal with costly and burdensome litigation.

This legislation is unnecessary and will have unintended consequences on special districts and county service districts as they seek to provide services that meet the needs of all of the residents within their districts. Please vote no on HB 3099.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Keith Hobson".

Keith Hobson, Director of Business & Facilities
Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District