

Position on 2019 Legislation:
Support of SB 935-2 Amendments



May 16, 2019

Chair Barker:

The Southern Oregon Landscape Association (SOLA) was formed with the purposes of addressing common concerns of its membership, increasing public awareness of the value of professional landscaping and horticultural services, providing members the opportunity to increase their knowledge, benefit through cooperative business efforts, and meet fellow members of the industry. Additionally, SOLA seeks to contribute to the betterment of the communities that we live and work in through our volunteer work. SOLA strongly supports the -2 amendments to Senate Bill 935 which eliminates all provisions to perform irrigation work by individuals that hold the new landscape contractor modified license.

SOLA also encourages you to review the written record of meeting materials that can be found on the Oregon Legislative Information System. There you will find a significant amount of testimony from licensed landscape contractors, regional water conservation organizations, individual cities and water districts, the Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and educators in landscape and irrigation design opposing SB 935 as introduced. The testimonies emphasize the sound, logical, and financial reasoning for adopting the proposed amendments.

Landscape irrigation is a science that uses one of our most precious natural resources, water. Landscape contractors are important partners in the efficient and safe use of water resources. The adoption of SB 935-2 and removal of the irrigation provisions supports water conservation efforts, along with public health protection measures by retaining critical safeguards for the communities we serve.

For these reasons, SOLA urges you and your fellow legislators to adopt SB 935-2.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie Smitherman".

Julie Smitherman
SOLA Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amie Batham".

Amie Batham
SOLA Secretary