



WEST MULTNOMAH
Soil & Water Conservation District

February 4, 2022

House Committee on Revenue
Chair Representative Nancy Nathanson
Vice-Chair Representative Khanh Pham
Vice-Chair Representative E. Werner Reschke

Re: Public Testimony in Support of House Bill (HB) 4115 – Treasury Transparency Bill

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice Chairs Pham and Reschke, Members of the House Committee on Revenue:

On behalf of the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District, I urge you to adopt HB 4115.

The West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District is a publicly funded local government special district whose mission is to provide resources, information, and expertise to inspire people to actively improve air and water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and soil health. In June 2021 we updated our Long Range Business Plan and affirmed that one of our strategic directions is to begin explicitly addressing the impacts of climate change. As a special district subject to the statutory and administrative rule requirements of the Oregon Department of Agriculture, we are able to support our employees' retirement through enrollment in PERS. We are committed to using public funds in the most the effective way possible and being held accountable for how we spend the public tax's dollars. We expect the same level of accountability and transparency from our State Treasury and want the Oregon Investment Council's website to divulge details more clearly and completely on the state's investment holdings. House Bill 4115 will ensure that our State Treasury publicly releases information about these holdings, including investments in fossil fuel companies and climate risk assessments for other investments.

In summary, the West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District is committed to promoting both resilient environments and resilient communities in the face of climate change and want our PERS investments to reflect these same values for a healthy future.

Sincerely,

Terri Preeg Riggsby,
Chair and Zone 5 Director

cc: West Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District

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