



**CITY OF ASTORIA**  
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April 17, 2023

To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

From: City of Astoria

**RE: Support for HB 3124 and full funding for HB 2813 for Source Water Protection**

Chair Helm and Committee Members,

I, Mayor Sean Fitzpatrick, write on behalf of the City of Astoria in support of HB 3124, the Bipartisan Drought Relief and Water Security Package (BiDRAWS). We congratulate all of the members and staff that worked to put this comprehensive package together, and thank you for working to ensure our water future in Oregon.

Our organization is in strong support of HB 2813, a bipartisan bill that would help ensure secure and safe drinking water for communities in Oregon. HB 2813 would help communities and water suppliers secure plentiful drinking water, increase resilience to climate change, and provide a state funding source to protect water resources and public health.

As a City that owns their entire watershed, consisting of 3,700 acres, we cannot emphasize how much control this gives us to make the important decisions necessary to protect our drinking water supply now and into the future. We have witnessed the issues that our neighboring watersheds face when they do not have ownership control. We feel extremely grateful and fortunate that our predecessors had the wisdom to acquire our entire watershed and to be good stewards of our forest for almost the last 100 years.

HB 2813 will provide meaningful support for many communities facing water insecurity and will help leverage unprecedented federal funding coming down to our state. We encourage Chair Helm and the committee members to ensure this bill receives full funding as the BiDRAWS package moves through the legislative process.

Thank you,



*Sean Fitzpatrick*

Mayor | City of Astoria

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