

Submitter: Roberta Schwarz

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and  
Water

Measure: HB2527

Dear House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water,

My community has spent over 17 years saving and restoring the White Oak Savanna In West Linn, Oregon. We know how important this rare habitat is for the protection of wildlife and native plants and for the physical and emotional health and well being of the people who live in the Portland Metro area and beyond. There used to be over 600,000 acres of Oak Habitat in our state. Now there is less than 5% remaining. Please advance HB 2527.

This bill revives an important program that allows private landowners the choice and resources to partner with area Soil and Water Conservation Districts in the North Willamette Valley to protect precious oak and other priority habitats.

I urge you to advance this bill out of committee to the full legislature, and to incorporate input and edits on the bill language from our SWCD partners. The significance of this bill is evidenced by the range and diversity of organizations showing up to voice support. This is a piece of legislation that will be part of your legacy to the children who will follow as stewards of this land.

Thank you for your work for the people of Oregon,  
Roberta Schwarz  
West Linn, OR.