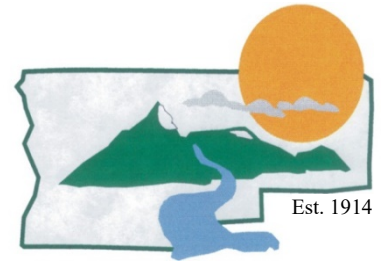


JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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February 10, 2023

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

Re: **Support HB 3142**

Chair Helm and Committee Members,

I am writing in support of HB 3142. The Deschutes Basin has been ravaged by extreme drought and continues with ongoing drought declarations being requested.

Jefferson County is a leader in on farm water conservation and I view HG 3142 as another tool in our tool box to accomplish additional water conservation. On many private acres in Jefferson County, it is very clear to see how Juniper removal has made a positive impact to the landscape.

I thank the sponsors of this bill and this committee for the opportunity to testify today. I strongly urge your support of HB 3142.

Sincerely,

Kelly Simmelink

Kelly Simmelink
Jefferson Co. Board Chair