



February 20, 2023

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

From: Oregon Association of Conservation Districts

Re: Support for HB 3163 – Place Based Water Planning Fund

Chair Helm and Committee Members,

The Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) represents Oregon's 45 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), special districts governed by elected boards. The Districts protect and enhance soil quality, water quality and quantity, and habitat by supporting voluntary conservation in partnership with private landowners and managers as well as federal, state, and nonprofit partners.

OACD supports HB 3163 which establishes the Place Based Water Planning Fund. This approach to water resources planning is founded on understanding regional water situations and involvement of a broad range of key stakeholders. Managing our water resources is highly complex and critical to our future, and place-based planning can help us move forward in a thoughtful and balanced manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan Dean", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Stan Dean, Advocacy Committee Chair  
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts  
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