

COLUMBIA COUNTY

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RE: HB3163

Chair Helm, Vice Chair Hartman, Vice Chair Owens and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water,

During the past year I have served on the HB 5006 Work Group tasked with developing a framework and path for state-supported water planning and management at the water region and/or basin level. This process has been informative and arduous as representatives from all water user groups struggled, with limited success, to come to consensus and to create a workable model to bring forward.

I support place-based planning, recognizing that without current and accurate information regarding in-stream and out-of-stream water needs we are hampered in efforts to address the vast array of water requirements for all segments of our society, our economy, and our environment.

I offer the following amendments to HB3163:

- Page 1, Section 2, line 24:
Is developed in collaboration with a balanced representation of interests **in consultation with affected County Governments.**
- Page 2, F, line 2
Is developed in consultation with Water Resources Department, other relevant state agencies **and affected county governments.**
- Page 2, Section 2, Line 45
The grants may be awarded to persons, Indian tribes, nonprofit organization and state **and local governments.**
- Amend to include a sign-off by a majority of the county commissioners in the counties included within the hydrologic area that is covered in the planning application in order to recognize the merit and value of the application.
- Additional:
In carrying out activities under this bill the Water Resources Department shall fully comply with its approved State Agency Coordination program approved under ORS 197.180 in order to comply with statewide planning goals and be compatible with local comprehensive plans when taking actions affecting land use.

Local governments are integral to the success of place-based planning and the implementation of the projects identified in the process. Local government is not a stakeholder group, it is a significant and essential partner of the State in this issue.

I urge your consideration of these suggested amendments.

Sincerely,


Margaret Magruder