

Submitter: Charles Bland

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: HB2765

Please allow this letter to serve as my personal endorsement and support of HB 2765 and its enormous and desperately needed positive impact on the city of Klamath Falls and the county of Klamath at-large. As a life-long resident, community advocate and organizer and a 25 year military service member and member of the South Suburban Sanitary District, I have a vested interests in HB 2765 and what the positive impact that it stands to render to the Klamath Basin.

As a Klamath County resident and member of the agricultural community, I have experienced first-hand the detrimental impact of severe multi-year drought that our community has been enduring. Utilizing 1.5 million gallons of treated wastewater a day in a responsible and beneficial manner is of the utmost importance to me and my fellow community members. As such it is in the best interest of the citizens of Klamath County to properly utilize the reuse quality water discharges produced by the District in order to bring forth the greatest public good for the citizens, local economy, wildlife refuge, and wildlife habitat.

HB 2765 seeks to ensure that greatest good by eliminating a costly \$20 million tax burden and environmentally destructive pipeline, and instead utilizing the natural environment by conveying said reuse water within existing waterways to the same endpoint as the proposed \$20 million dollar and environmentally destructive pipeline. HB 2765 ensures a reliable source of water for the wildlife refuge in our time of sever drought, it provides a innovative and solution-based response to the unprecedented drought while simultaneously addressing responsible stewardship efforts to restore and preserve habitat that was once vibrant and healthy prior to the drought and would once again be if proper allocations of water as proposed by HB 2765 were realized.

HB 2765 is a winning proposal that provides all parties involved with a viable and equitable solution to the negative impact of years of sever drought. HB 2765 utilizes reuse water for the very citizenry it is meant for, it seeks to avoid costly and unnecessary engineered infrastructure in the form of a pipeline that will only cost the citizenry and rob our environment of life-giving water (1.5 million gallons a day). HB 2765 is without question the most comprehensive bi-partisan solution-based legislation to be proposed for decades and it seeks to provide a win, win outcome for Klamath County citizens, the district, the environment, and wildlife for decades to come.

I implore that all that seeks to serve the greatest good of the citizenry, the environment, and wildlife to support and pass HB 2765.

Very Respectfully,
Charles V. Bland, Captain USAFR