

**David Brock Smith**  
**State Senator**

District #1  
Curry, Coos, & Douglas Counties  
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**Committees**

Senate Committee on Natural Resources  
Joint Committee Ways & Means Sub  
on Public Safety

**OREGON STATE LEGISLATURE**  
**900 COURT ST NE SALEM, OREGON 97301**

April 11, 2023

Co-Chair Lew Frederick  
Oregon State Senate  
900 Court St. NE, S-419  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Co-Chair Susan McLain  
Oregon House of Representatives  
900 Court St. NE, H-493  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Senator Frederick and Representative McLain:

I am writing to request the Oregon Joint Committee on Ways and Means support full funding for two important statewide programs 1) **Oregon Solutions**, and 2) **Oregon Consensus**, funded as part of the dispute resolution services allocation. As the Senator for District 1, I have experienced firsthand the benefit these programs provide in helping to support community-based problem solving.

The communities I represent see opportunities for moving into the kind of future they want for themselves, and their kids. This includes timber harvests, fishing, commerce, energy, and living alongside a landscape that is special and a rural character that we want to last for generations.

The staff from Oregon Solutions and Oregon Consensus gets the hope those communities have and understands that getting there can be contentious and complicated.

I am supportive of Oregon Solutions' work with the Port of Coos Bay and West Coast Seafood Processors to improved wastewater treatment for seafood processing.

I also asked Oregon Consensus to conduct an assessment around community benefit agreements for offshore wind. Those conversations have proven an attention to listening to community needs, and an expertise in advising on process design that helps all of us. Oregon Consensus demonstrates a professionalism and commitment to supporting communities, even when there is conflict and no easy answer.

Oregon Solutions and Oregon Consensus programs provide very distinct and critical services to communities across the State in implementing sustainable solutions and cost-effective resolutions to contentious issues. I am thankful the legislature recognizes the significance of these programs and hope they will continue to be supported.

Respectfully,



*David Brock Smith*

Oregon Senate

District 01

Curry, Coos, & Douglas Counties

“Southwest Oregon’s Fish, Farm & Forestry District”

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cc:

Senator Michael Dembrow  
Senator Suzanne Weber  
Representative Tracy Cramer  
Representative Emily McIntire  
Representative Hoa Nguyen  
Representative Ricki Ruiz