

Submitter: Asianna Fernandez
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure: SB775

I would like to submit this letter of support for SB 775.

SB 775 seeks to update the eligibility rules for soil and water conservation districts so candidates for zoned seats in districts with populations of over 250,000 do not have to own or manage at least 10 acres of land. I believe this is a long overdue update to the current statute.

I live in the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District area, don't own land, and worry that with emerging issues in larger cities, these more populated districts need to have more diverse points of view, especially when it comes to topics such as urban tree canopies, stormwater management, pesticide use in yards, native planting and drought tolerant plants to mitigate growing water shortages, heat islands, etc.

I also believe that all people should be able to run for these seats, regardless of their ability to inherit or buy large sums of land. It ensures that as a voter I have more choices and it creates more opportunities for folks to run.

Thank you for your consideration,
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