## **OREGON BASS & PANFISH CLUB**

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Date: February 8, 2025

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

HB 2773

Greetings,

My name is Carol Doumitt and I'm the Ways & Means Director for the Oregon Bass & Panfish Club (OBPC), Portland, Oregon. I'm responding to an invitation to address this Committee.

I apologize for not being here in person to speak to you directly due to the last-minute notice.

First, a little background on OBPC. We are a warmwater fishing club that has been in continuous existence since 1958 with over 150 dues paying members. The mission of our club is to stimulate interest in warmwater fishing, to preserve waters for warmwater fishing and to improve warmwater fishing opportunities through cooperation with fishery stakeholders.

I thank the Committee for the opportunity to comment. I like the overall intent of the bill and the mechanism to implement the Legislature's intent. I would like to see additional wording in the execution documentation that includes the primary stakeholders; the recreational anglers; aka, the knowledge experts.

Adding the following language or something like this would instill a sense of confidence that the recreation angler has some input into where and how these funds are spent. Here is my proposal.

Add the following language **in bold** to Section 1, (4) to include:

"In carrying out this section, the department shall consider opportunities to coordinate with the Restoration and Enhancement Board established under ORS 496.286 and **recreational angler organizations** to enhance fishing access."

This minor change will place one of the major stakeholders at the decision table.

Sincerely,
Carol Doumitt, Oregon Bass & Panfish Club
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