

Submitter: Thomas Berridge

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On  
Natural Resources

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5543

As the Legislature allocates money for the coming biennial, it is very important to support the Oregon Water Resources Department. As climate change becomes more severe, water will become an even more important resources and will have to be managed wisely. To do that the OWRD will need data to make those decisions. Current funding should stay the same or grow, not be cut by reducing funding for Package 090. The department needs to add funds in Package 090 to invest in IT for water use tracking and reporting, and it needs the funds to pursue important cases. Packages 107 and 111 also are important as they will modernize IT and improve the OWRD website to provide information for many types of stakeholders. Thank you.