

February 25, 2025

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and members of the Senate Committee On Natural Resources & Wildfire,

For the record, my name is Eliza Walton. I am the coalition director at the Oregon League of Conservation Voters. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 427. On behalf of our thousands of members and supporters in Oregon, I would like to register the Oregon League of Conservation Voters' and the Oregon Conservation Network's strong support of Senate Bill 427.

The Oregon Conservation Network (OCN) is coordinated through the Oregon League of Conservation Voters (OLCV). It is a network of 42 not-for-profit organizations throughout Oregon, united to advocate for pro-conservation legislation and to fight policies that threaten our state's natural legacy. This important bill is a Priority for a Healthy Oregon. (Here is a link to the full list of priorities)

Senate Bill 427 safeguards our streams—and the fish, water quality, and scenic values they support—by ensuring voluntary water right changes won't further diminish streamflows. This narrow fix closes a dangerous loophole and brings modern environmental values into Oregon's outdated water right transfer review process.

OCN members urge your support of Senate Bill 427 and the life-sustaining streamflows it will safeguard.

Sincerely,

Elza Walton

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Submitted on behalf of OCN Member Organizations:

1000 Friends of Oregon | Association of Oregon Recyclers | Beyond Toxics | Bird Alliance of Oregon | Cascadia Wildlands | Center for Biological Diversity | Center for Food Safety | Central Oregon Landwatch | Climate Solutions | Defenders of Wildlife | Deschutes River Alliance | Engineers for a Sustainable Future | The Environmental Center | Environment Oregon | Food & Water Watch | Friends of Mt. Hood | Friends of the Columbia Gorge | Friends of Family Farmers | Greater Hells Canyon Council | League of Women Voters of Oregon | Native Fish Society | Neighbors for Clean Air | Oceana | Oregon Coast Alliance | Oregon Environmental Council | Oregon League of Conservation Voters | Oregon Land and Water Alliance | Oregon Natural Desert Association | Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility | Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition | Oregon Wild | Renewable Northwest | Rogue Riverkeeper | Sierra Club, Oregon Chapter | The Street Trust | Surfrider Foundation | Trout Unlimited, Oregon Council | Tualatin Riverkeepers | WaterWatch of Oregon | Wetlands Conservancy | Wild Salmon Center | Willamette Riverkeeper