Submitter: Leslie Bach

On Behalf Of:

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water Committee:

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

HB3501

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens,

I am writing in opposition to HB 3501. The waters of Oregon belong to all Oregonians. One of the reasons many of us chose to live here is access to the natural environment, particularly rivers and streams. Decisions regarding water rights and water rights transfers should absolutely consider the public interest. Oregon should be doing more to protect our natural resources, not less, and barring the state from considering the effects of transfers on public interests such as fish and wildlife, recreation, ecological health, and water quality is a short-sighted and ill-advised policy.

Thank you, Leslie Bach