

March 11, 2025

**Position on Bills at 2025  
Session of Oregon Legislature:**

**HB 3501: Oppose**



The Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) is a coalition of over 50 local Indivisible groups throughout Oregon that cooperate and amplify their joint efforts to advance important federal and state legislation and engage with elected officials to promote causes for the benefit of all Oregonians.

COIN opposes HB 3501, which would prohibit the consideration of whether the proposed change to water rights will impair or be detrimental to the public in the evaluation of water right changes and transfer applications.

It would also require a \$10,000 fee on anyone who wishes to protest a water rights change or transfer and limit the contested case hearing to the issue of whether the proposal would harm an existing water right (no other issues allowed), regardless of the effects of the change or transfer on water quality, recreation, wildlife, fish, or anything else.

It also requires that the Oregon Water Resources Department decide on all applications within 120 days, defaulting to automatic approval on the 121<sup>st</sup> day.

HB 3501 would effectively close down all consideration of the public interest, when someone wants a water rights change or transfer.

**Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)**

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