

Submitter: Sally Bratton
On Behalf Of: Wastewater Treatment Lagoons
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3655

To whom it may concern;

I am in strong support of Bill 3655. For over 30 years, I am a certified Grade III Wastewater Treatment Operator in the State of Oregon. I know that there are a number of systems in our State that is mostly activated sludge or better known as mechanical treatment facilities. Lagoon systems are a unique design on its own and also requires DEQ certified operators. The current certification exams are more layed out for mechanical facilities with very few lagoon questions. I was blessed enough to be employed at a activated sludge facility in Klamath County for 4 years, which is where I received my certification for Grade II in wastewater treatment. However, after working at a lagoon system for over 24 years, there is no possible way I could successfully pass a Wastewater Treatment Grade IV exam with all the Mechanical Treatment changes. The saying " If you don't use it, you'll lose it" is a fact in my case. I truly feel that a designated exam for each wastewater treatment system, activated sludge, facultative lagoon, and/or mechanical systems is a must now with all the new regulations coming down the pike for Oregon and across the country. I truly hope you acknowledge the changes needed in this industry of wastewater treatment and pass Bill 3655

Sincerely,
Sally Bratton