

South Suburban Sanitary District 2201 Laverne Avenue Klamath Falls, OR. 97603 Phone 541.882.5744 Fax 541.882.5013 Board of Directors
Position 1 - Joe Spendolini
Board Chairman
Position 2 - Kenneth DeCrans
Position 3 - Michael Koger

<u>District Manager/Secretary</u> Brett Blofsky

Representative John Lively, Chair Representative Mark Gamba, Co-Chair Representative Bobby Levy, Co-Chair Committee Members House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment

Subject: Support for HB 3655

Dear Chair Lively and Committee Members:

My name is Brett Blofsky, District Manager for South Suburban Sanitary District (SSSD) here in Klamath Falls and I offer this testimony in support of HB 3655.

SSSD operates a facultative lagoon wastewater treatment system with an average inflow between 2 and 5 million gallons per day. Our treatment operators do an excellent job ensuring our wastewater is properly treated to meet all requirements of our NPDES Permit before discharge. However, our operators have struggled to obtain higher levels of treatment certifications through DEQ due to the tests focusing heavily on mechanical treatment facilities. Since mechanical plants are completely different than lagoon plants, it puts our operators at a severe disadvantage for obtaining higher levels of certification.

I believe separating these tests by the type of treatment facility an operator works at would have nothing but positive effects on this industry, especially since more and more experienced operators are reaching retirement age. I believe this change will help recruit more operators into this field, which is very important as more and more regulations are put into place.

I respectfully encourage you to vote YES on HB 3655.

Sincerely,

Brett Blofsky District Manager South Suburban Sanitary District