



American Association of University Professors

Academic Freedom for a Free Society

March 19, 2025

Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Oregon State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: House Bill 3114 - Support

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, vice-chair McDonald, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the more than 6,300 members of the American Association of University Professors in Oregon, our collective bargaining chapters at the University of Oregon, Portland State University, Oregon State University, and Oregon Institute of Technology, and our faculty members in advocacy chapters across Oregon, I ask that you please support HB 3114.

HB 3114 leverages the faculty expertise at Oregon State University and PSU's Oregon Consensus program to protect and responsibly manage one of Eastern Oregon's most vital resources. Together with many involved stakeholders and community groups, this collaboration is addressing water management in the Chewaucan River and Lake Abert to support both nature and human livelihoods. Tribes, ranchers, environmental groups, natural resource organizations, and government agencies have worked together to develop priorities for this resource. HB 3114 builds on the HB 2010 drought package investment funded by the Oregon legislature in 2023, and will enable the collection and analysis of data, allowing this collaborative process to continue so that our state can make informed decisions together.

HB 3114 leverages Oregon's investment in university education and research to solve real-world problems which are critical to our communities and their economic development. Oregon's water issues require long-term planning and action, and these research and outreach programs are critical to Oregonians and the future of our state. The university faculty working on these issues are funded by a patchwork of state, federal, and local funds, and Oregon needs certainty around water resource management, which is what makes HB 3114 so timely and critical. AAUP Oregon supports these hard working faculty, and their role in protecting this iconic part of Oregon for all stakeholders cannot be overstated.

I urge you to pass HB 3114. Thank you for your consideration.

Louisa Hooven
VP of Political Action, AAUP Oregon