

Submitter: Sarah Fowler  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1153

My family and I support this bill. This bill upholds the principles of water equity and water fairness that Oregon has been working hard to address. It would require the OWRD to ensure that transfers will not harm certain public values. Transfer laws are currently silent on the topic of public interest, which is a dangerous loophole that effectively nullifies the state's ability to protect instream values on hundreds of streams statewide. SB1153 (and its companion bill SB 427), would address this current transfer loophole. This bill is an important step to safeguard water quality, watershed habitat, fisheries, and endangered species.