

Submitter: Mary Jo Mann

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1153

Dear Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and Members of the Committee,
I support Senate Bill 1153 to safeguard fish habitat and water quality in water right transfers.

Water is critical to support salmon and food sources. All citizens depend on clean, clear, water.

I support SB 1153 because it closes a loophole that has allowed the Oregon Water Resources Department to approve applications for water right transfers without adequate consideration of whether the change will harm our streams. Lower water levels in a stream can hurt fish, impair water quality, and decrease scenic and recreation values.

Senate Bill 1153 safeguards our streams—and the fish habitat, water quality, and cultural values they support—by ensuring the state doesn't grant permission for voluntary water right changes that further harm fish habitat and water quality.

I urge your support of SB 1153 and the life-sustaining streams it will safeguard.

Sincerely,
Mary Jo Mann