

Submitter: David Grant  
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.

Oregon law currently allows the Oregon Water Resources Department to approve application for water rights transfers without consideration for water quality effects or for potential harm to fish and wildlife. New water rights or water use applications are evaluated as such to protect instream values but old rights can be transferred to new uses or to new locations without such review. This is a loophole in the law which is inconsistent with modern environmental values and needs to be closed.

Senate Bill 1153 ensures that fish and wildlife as well as water quality will be protected in water rights transfers. It applies modern environmental considerations to all water rights applications and transfers. It closes a potentially dangerous loophole in our state laws.

I fully support Senate Bill 1153 and urge you to do likewise.

Sincerely,

David M Grant