

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

I oppose SB 1153

It threatens Oregon's ability to manage water efficiently and responsibly through the use of water rights transfers at a time when new water rights are not available. A water right transfer is required whenever a water right holder seeks a change in point of diversion, point of appropriation, type of use, place of use, or any combination of these. It ignores existing public review requirements currently required through OWRD's water rights transfer process. By adding more, superfluous layers of bureaucratic review, the bill would have a chilling effect on the efficient use of water throughout our state through the threat of litigation from activist third parties who desperately want this bill to pass. Additionally, OWRD is ill-equipped to handle additional work when they are already backlogged and seeking to increase water user fees by 135%!