



## Eugene Water & Electric Board

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March 24, 2025

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

### **Eugene Water & Electric Board Opposes SB 1062 -1 Amendment – PLEASE AMEND**

Chair Sollman and Members of the Committee:

The Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) opposes the SB 1062 -1 amendment as drafted and requests an amendment that accounts fully for different types of governance configurations in municipal utilities.

Authority for the powers and functions vested in the Eugene Water & Electric Board is established by Chapter 10, Section 44, of the Charter of the City of Eugene. EWEB is defined as a separate political subdivision of the City of Eugene, a municipal corporation, and the EWEB Board is composed of five elected utility commissioners.

The -1 amendment does not account for governance models like that of EWEB or several other water and/or electric utilities with similar governance independent from a city council. This change could cause confusion and unintended negative consequences and for utilities like EWEB with their own governing body.

We would like the opportunity to work with the committee, bill sponsors, and other water utilities, to amend the bill in a different manner to account properly for all municipal utility governance models. One possibility could be to modify the -1 amendment to read "a majority vote of the governing body of the city or the duly appointed or elected governing body of the utility."

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Jason Heuser  
Public Policy and Government Affairs Director  
Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB)