

Wade Flegel
9271 NW McCabe Rd.
Prineville, OR 97754

Natural Resource and Wildlife Committee

NO on SB 1153

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash and Committee Members,

My name is Wade Flegel. Our family farm uses irrigation to grow our crops. We use water from irrigation districts as well as state water rights. SB 1153 will put additional red tape on the back log of water transfers at OWRD. This bill would tie up water that would improve water use efficiencies. For example someone changing from flood or hand line irrigation to pivot irrigation, which would improve the efficient use of water, SB 1153 would limit the ability for farmers to be flexible with the precious water our lively hood depends on.

This bill also brings in unrelated third parties that do not know the circumstances or the need to be timely in the transfer. Timing in farming is extremely important. It could be the difference in whether a farmer is profitable or not. Whether a crop gets water at the right growing point or not.

I Urge you to oppose SB 1153 as it is not needed and attacks the ability for farmers and ranchers to be come more efficient in their use of water.