

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

Committee chair person and honored committee members,

I am standing in opposition to SB1153, as a diverse agricultural producer of specialty Seeds, grass seeds, hazelnuts, and melons, in Benton County and the Willamette River primary flood plain. We are not in any type of critical ground water area and farm many acres that have 1964 water rights, as well as many acres that would be appropriate to easily spread water to or divert Corp of Engineer contracted water to. In order to stay competitive and at a level of productivity to remain financially viable, we may need to transfer water rights to other parcels for any number of production strategies. The proposed public input process in SB1153 would create an unworkable consequence of delays and redundant review that would incumber our best practices and the best use of the land that we farm. There is no shortage of water in most of the Willamette Basin and the, so called safe guards, proposed in a public review process would only serve to burden irrigators from remaining a key component to the economy of Oregon