

Submitter: Nicole Montesano

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3372

Oregon's water rights system is antiquated and increasingly unworkable. It encourages waste, while preventing common sense conservation with its use it or lose it approach. It also jeopardizes local food stability. Large irrigation water rights holders use 82% of the water pumped from wells in Oregon and much of the food they produce is shipped overseas. While that is important, we also need local producers.

Small farms, using relatively small amounts of water, sell produce directly to their communities. They are a vital part of the food system for Oregonians and an important part of the economy.

Please approve this amendment and this bill.