

Submitter: Jennifer Gunter

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3343

As a homeowner in rural Oregon's 2nd District, eyeing a future well, I'm damn mad about House Bill 3343's amendments. Sections 5-7 shackle water right extensions and transfers to forced upgrades and reporting (Section 2), with Section 8's \$2,000 fines looming (ORS 536.900). This overreach screws rural taxpayers like me. I demand a "NO" vote.

A future \$10,000 well, even with 75% covered, sticks me with \$2,500, its chicken feed to urban fat cats, a gut punch to future plans. Reporting's a bureaucratic data grab, bleeding cash many don't have. *Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Council* (505 U.S. 1003, 1992) calls this a Fifth Amendment taking—my land's potential shouldn't be Salem's piggy bank!

Sections 5-8 hit rural folks hardest, favoring city slickers who can pay. *Nollan v. California Coastal Commission* (483 U.S. 825, 1987) demands conditions fit goals, this cash grab doesn't. It sets a rotten precedent, choking future water access with upgrades I can't fund, shafting landowners while corporate waste runs free.

It's a solution looking for a problem, punishing small landowners instead of tackling systemic waste. Plus, the logistics—monitoring thousands of scattered wells—invite inefficiency and errors, wasting taxpayer dollars. Private wells are NOT public utilities; they're private property. Forcing meters erodes that distinction, setting a dangerous precedent for state control over other personal resources.

Vote NO to stop this rights-robbing nonsense.

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