



CITY ADMINISTRATION

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April 3, 2025

To: Senator Kate Lieber, Co-Chair
Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair
Senator Fred Girod, Co-Vice Chair
Representative David Gomberg, Co-Vice Chair
Representative Greg Smith, Co-Vice Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means

From: City of Prineville

Dear Co-Chairs Lieber and Sanchez, Committee Co-Vice Chairs and Committee Members,

RE: HB3135

House Bill 3135 directs the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to award grants to Soil and Water Conservation Districts across the state of Oregon to treat invasive western junipers. Continued funding for these projects is essential to the improvement of water quality, restoration of ecosystems, enhancement of ecological and wildlife biodiversity, and wildfire risk mitigation. The City of Prineville is thankful for the acknowledgement of this important work by the Legislature as exemplified in HB 3135.

In 2023, the Oregon State Legislature passed House Bill 2010 which directed DAS to provide grants related to the treatment of western junipers to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts located in Crook, Deschutes, Jefferson, Harney, Klamath, Lake, and Wheeler Counties. This funding has provided our districts with the opportunity to partner with other local, state and federal agencies to coordinate on western juniper treatment efforts. To date, HB 2010 has helped our Soil and Water Conservation Districts treat over 16,326 acres of western juniper across the State of Oregon.

With the State's ongoing investment in western juniper treatment through HB 3135, the City of Prineville will be able to continue our efforts to restore water quality and ecological health across Oregon landscapes. We urge you to support the continued investment in western juniper treatment through HB 3135.

For more information on each Soil & Water Conservation Districts' juniper treatment projects done to date, please visit <https://arcg.is/0OD4a80>.

Sincerely,

Caroline Ervin

Director of Strategy & Economic Development