

Submitter:	Tami Sloan
On Behalf Of:	Taxpayers Law-Abiding Oregonians
Committee:	Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1154

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash and other distinguished committee members,

This bill represents a troubling overreach by the state into the private lives and properties of Oregonians. SB 1154 proposes sweeping regulatory authority across the state under the pretense of addressing groundwater contamination—an issue that is real, but geographically specific. Rather than focus on local solutions for local problems, this bill imposes a costly and intrusive framework that affects all Oregonians, regardless of whether they are impacted by the contamination.

This is not targeted problem-solving. It is blanket governance, and it will come at a significant cost—not only in terms of privacy and liberty, but also financially. The formation of new committees, expansion of agency oversight, and broad enforcement mechanisms all carry real and ongoing costs. What has not been clearly addressed is who will be responsible for these costs. The answer, unfortunately, is the Oregon taxpayer—families, farmers, and property owners who may have no connection to the contamination issue at all.

Governor Kotek, who now champions this bill, had years in the Legislature—including as Speaker of the House—to take meaningful action on this issue. She did not. Now, she is using her executive influence to push what appears to be a political gesture more than a practical, equitable solution. Oregon deserves better than government-by-optics.

The Governor is elected to represent all Oregonians—not just political allies or pet causes. SB 1154 undermines that principle by expanding government power, reducing local accountability, and placing unjust financial and regulatory burdens on people who are not part of the problem.

I urge the committee to reject Senate Bill 1154 and instead support focused, community-driven approaches that respect privacy, preserve liberty, and use public resources responsibly.

Thank you for your time and consideration.