

Submitter: Dieter Weber
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1154

SB 1154-1 permits counties to prohibit new homes unless they are hooked up to urban-style water systems or community wells—even in rural zones. It also allows DEQ inspectors to enter private property to examine septic systems, with only minimal notice, regardless of consent.

The result of this is a top-down regime that weakens home rule authority and forces Oregonians to comply with broad state mandates crafted by un-elected administrators.

Additionally, SB 1154-1 establishes overlapping “concern areas” and “management areas,” each with separate rules, actions, and planning processes. This convoluted layering will:

- Confuse residents and landowners,
- Overwhelm rural counties with compliance responsibilities,
- Inflate administrative costs, and
- Erode public trust in environmental governance.

Oregonians should be empowered to solve environmental problems locally and transparently, not subjected to endless interagency plans and reports.

Thank you.