

Submitter: Lori Sloan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1154

I would like to go on record as profoundly opposing SB 1154. I have lived my entire 63 + years in Oregon. Water is not just a want, but is a fundamental and basic need for life itself. Requiring meters and monitoring on all domestic wells is a complete government overreach. We will be forced to purchase and have expensive meters installed. We will be required to allow entry onto our private property whenever the state wishes. This to not only monitor well usage, but also to conduct soil samples and control our septic systems. I also see the state charging us for our own water use in the future, after having the expenses of drilling and maintaining those wells. Didn't the issuance of well permits give us implicit permission to use that water? This bill will bring yet another burden for many elderly and disadvantaged individuals. If we can't afford to comply or don't pass inspection, the state will mandate well abandonment, alteration or replacement at the owners expense. Plus other fines and penalties. I thought we were trying to decrease homelessness, not increase it! How are these unfortunate people supposed to live...cook, wash dishes and clothing, flush the toilet, and supply water to small personal gardens, pets and livestock? Are they supposed to revert back to the 1800's and have the whole family bathe once a week in one tub of water? Without access to water, those property values will plummet to almost nothing. Talk about financial impact! This bill will doom our beautiful state. Another issue of utmost importance is the denial for construction of new residential dwellings if they cannot be connected to an urban water supply. So now we don't even have the freedom to choose where we want to live? I personally do not want to live in a town or city. I do not want to be forced to drink chemically treated water or bottled water which is contaminated with toxins from plastic packaging. I believe that the state of Oregon is unfairly targeting private wells and private property when we use 1% or less of available water. Yet data centers and potential lithium mines are allowed massive amounts of water. Not to mention the devastating environmental damage they inflict (especially lithium mining). If passed, this senate bill will destroy Oregon as we know it. Our forefathers fled their country of origin to escape tyranny such as this. Please note no on this disastrous bill, and any similar bills that come forward. Please protect our rights as responsible landowners. Thank you.

Lori Sloan