

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

As a lifelong Oregonian landowner who faithfully pays my taxes and casts my votes I cannot urge my representatives strongly enough to kill this bill.

My husband and I bought our land 30 years ago as an investment for our retirement. We have spent a lot of our hard earned money, blood, sweat, and tears caring for this land and preparing it to sell to families just like us with dreams of building homes and raising children on small acreage in our area of rural Oregon. The way I understand it this bill has the potential of banning any home building that does not use municipal water. If that happens our land and the wells we had drilled will become next to worthless and our retirement uncertain.

I also understand that there is mention of installing meters on our wells. This is not reasonable. It is true that we don't pay for city water but we are responsible for and pay for any power, maintenance, testing, repairs and replacement of the wells. The state should not charge taxes or fees on these wells when it does not pay for them or any of the costs and risks associated with them. When the bottom of our house well collapsed we paid to fix it, not the state. If our pump dies, we pay for that. Every time we test our water we will be the ones paying for filters or treatment that might be needed, not the state.

This bill has not been written to protect well owners and the people who care the most about the wells, it will only harm us. Our precious farmers will be hurt more than anyone. Please use your vote or whatever influence you have to keep this bill and others like it from passing.

Thank you for your time and service to our community,