WATER LEAGUE

Water League engages the public in water stewardship.

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In Memoriam John L. Gardiner April 24, 2025

To: Senate Committee On Natural Resources Senator Jeff Golden, Chair Senator Todd Nash, Vice-Chair Senators Fred Girod, Floyd Prozanski, and Kathleen Taylor

RE: Water League supports HB 3364-4.

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and Committee Members,

Water League supports the -4 Amendment revisions to HB 3364 that will become HB 3364 A. We appreciate the collaborative effort by many to pull together a reasonable revision to the feasibility study and water project grants.

We believe the state can competently manage the existing 60-day public comment periods in ORS 541.669, and challenge the presumption that cutting those periods in half, as proposed in Section 8 of the bill, is the result of some inherent failing on the part of staff, which is how the justification has been presented.

Streamlining is a common theme in several water-based bills in this session, which we strongly support; however, some of it has been initially premised on limiting public awareness through noticing and shortening public comment periods. We greatly appreciate where the legislature has found more equitable means to streamline water use management.

Sincerely,

Christopher Hall Executive Director