





(541) 268-4348

May 9, 2025

Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction Oregon State Capitol 900 Salem Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: House Bill 5531 – Mapleton Water District – Priority Distribution Line Replacement

Chair Girod, Chair Nosse and members of the Committee:

Our district has been struggling to provide consistent water for our customers over the last six years. While we have made great strides with the financial support of both the Federal government and the State of Oregon, continued support will be critical in creating a reliable self-sustaining water system.

Most of our water distribution lines were installed in the 1950s and 1960s and due to their age, they are failing more and more often. We have a masterplan laying out a long-term priority list for repairs to the entire system, but given the size of our district it would be impossible for our customers to bear the full cost of executing these plans. The legislature's support will allow us to make progress in the first phase of these priority improvements.

Given the uncertainty of funding at the Federal level, we hope that the committee will allocate sufficient funds so that projects like ours can move forward.

Sincerely,

Varus S. West

Vanessa West Chair, Board of Commissioners



