

Submitter: Courtney Kennedy
On Behalf Of: Myself
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1153

Minimal Water Use: Exempt domestic wells in Oregon account for a very small percentage of the total water use, often cited as less than 4%, and a significant portion of this water returns to the ground, recharging the aquifer. Metering these wells is therefore argued to be unnecessary and inefficient in addressing overall water usage or conservation efforts.

Rural Residents Not the Primary Cause of Groundwater Shortages: Proponents against metering argue that rural residents using domestic wells are not the primary cause of groundwater shortages. Cities, which often use groundwater, utilize similar amounts of water per household as rural residents, and the exempt domestic well usage is comparatively low. Targeting domestic wells is seen as an easy but misplaced effort to address the broader issue of aquifer decline.

Focus on Larger Water Users: Some argue that attention should be focused on larger water users like commercial agriculture or industrial users rather than residential wells, especially in areas with critical groundwater concerns.

Cost and Burden: Implementing metering programs on potentially thousands of domestic wells would likely be costly and burdensome for homeowners. There's also concern about the potential for government overreach and control over private well water usage.

No History of Metering Domestic Wells: Oregon has never required metering of exempt domestic wells. Efforts to mandate it are often met with strong opposition based on this historical practice.

In summary, the arguments against metering domestic wells in Oregon are based on the belief that these wells constitute a small portion of the overall water use, are not the primary cause of groundwater problems, and implementing metering would be an unnecessary and potentially costly burden on homeowners.

I strongly In summary, the arguments against metering domestic wells in Oregon are based on the belief that these wells constitute a small portion of the overall water use, are not the primary cause of groundwater problems, and implementing metering would be an unnecessary and potentially costly burden on homeowners.

I strongly disagree with this proposed absolutely horrrify bill 1153 as it is humans basic rights to have access to water and not to be regulated by a government entity who is simply trying to take more money from citizens to mismanage in to their proposed state budget.

NO TO BILL 1153.