

Submitter:	Bailey Hayes
On Behalf Of:	Bailey and Jake Hayes
Committee:	Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1154

I am writing in strong opposition to the proposed measure that would require monitoring water use at the pump level in Oregon.

As a resident and landowner who values responsible stewardship of our natural resources, I understand the importance of water conservation. However, this measure represents an overreach that places undue burden on small-scale farmers, ranchers, and private landowners like myself. The costs and infrastructure required to implement real-time monitoring at every point of use are excessive and unnecessary, especially for those of us who already operate within our legal water rights.

Water management should prioritize collaboration, education, and support—not increased surveillance or penalties. Imposing rigid, high-tech mandates could force smaller operations out of compliance simply due to lack of resources, not wrongdoing. This policy threatens to harm those who are using water responsibly, without offering a meaningful benefit in terms of conservation or enforcement.

I urge lawmakers to reconsider this measure and explore more balanced, practical approaches that recognize the realities of rural land use and protect the rights of property owners. We all want to ensure Oregon's water remains available for generations to come, but that goal is best achieved through cooperative solutions—not government overreach.

Thank you for your time and consideration.