

Submitter: Fran Recht

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4006

I am very much opposed to this bill. It sets a dangerous precedent and also sets back efforts to control the serious, health-compromising groundwater nitrate pollution issues in the basin. This issue was recently reported on in the Oregon Capital Chronical (see <https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2026/01/12/groups-at-odds-over-proposed-nitrate-pollution-rules-for-farmers-in-northeast-oregon/>)

HB 4006 perverts Oregon's water laws by exempting Umatilla Basin irrigators that divert water from the Columbia River from the laws that every other irrigator state must follow.

It would allow a significant increase in irrigated agriculture in the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area that could indeed undermine efforts to decrease nitrate inputs into the groundwater.

This is a bad bill and I ask you to oppose it.

Thank you