

Submitter: John Houle

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4006

HB 4006 should not come out of committee for legislative action. Like many bills that appear to be principled and beneficial to the entire state HB 4006 will not achieve this goal. Instead it begins a process of creating a multi-tiered structure of water rights exceptions to State Water Right laws. Water Right Laws need to be consistently applied throughout the state. This action ignores changes occurring to our environment in terms of precipitation character and distribution. Look to the SW and the Colorado basin process currently underway. Though the Columbia River may not seem to suffer these same conditions look to the snowpack amounts in the Cascades and Rocky Mountains. Can we continue to assume that our over allocated water resources will continue as they have in the past? Allowing unfettered use by over committing a potentially dwindling supply of water for the benefit of a few in not wise use of this precious resource. Oppose HB 4006.