

Submitter: Andrew Simrin
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4006

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, members of the Committee,

The public watershed must be respected, as water is life.

HB 4006 exempts certain Umatilla Basin irrigators from key water laws that every other farmer in the state must adhere to. It fundamentally changes water right management of Columbia River surface water rights for a select group of irrigators who divert water between river miles 252 and 303. This bill sets dangerous precedent and raises concerns as to the effect on water right holders, ground water quality, public health, and imperiled Columbia River salmon/steelhead.

Please oppose HB 4006.

Thank you.