



*Water League engages the public  
in water stewardship.*

P.O. Box 1033  
Cave Junction, OR  
97523

chris@waterleague.org  
(541) 415-8010

**Board of Directors**

*President*  
Gerald Allen

*Vice President*  
Gordon Lyford

*Secretary*  
Tracey Reed

*Treasurer*  
Linda Pace

William Joerger

Dan Wahpepah

**Executive Director**  
Christopher Hall

**In Memoriam**  
John L. Gardiner

February 10, 2026

To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Representative Ken Helm, Co-Chair  
Representative Mark Owens, Co-Chair  
Representative Sarah Finger McDonald, Vice-Chair  
Representatives Court Boice, Jami Cate, Annessa Hartman, Bobby Levy,  
Pam Marsh, Susan McLain, Lesly Muñoz, Anna Scharf

RE: Water League opposes HB 4006.

Dear Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and  
Committee Members,

Water League opposes HB 4006, which substantially privatizes water use  
management for a special class of water users in the Umatilla Basin, specifically  
defined as the region adjacent to the Columbia River, river miles 252 to 303.  
Among other features of the bill, we oppose exempting these water users from  
the Chapter 540 Water Right Transfer statutes and extending irrigation district  
controls to intergovernmental entities formed under ORS 190.

Water League will submit full-length testimony should HB 4006 advance to  
another committee in which a public hearing is held on the bill. In the event  
the bill advances and another public hearing is not held, we will nonetheless  
publicize our forthcoming comments on the matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Hall".

Christopher Hall  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gordon R Lyford".

Gordon Lyford, CWRE  
Vice-President