

Submitter: Brittany Lardy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1586

I am a native Oregonian and have lived in Washington county my entire life. My identify is intertwined with the green pastures and forest hills of this beautiful area. I am not one to speak out but I feel that I am watching everything I love and value about where I live slowly slipping away. I have made my life here, I am a mother, a wife and a nurse. I know I feel so much pride in looking out over beautiful green spaces, but one wrong decision could lead to a loss of everything. No longer will we be able to be associated with Oregon being green if we keep slowly chipping away at our green spaces and fertile agriculture land. Why are you stripping away at the soul of our area, our farmers our citizens our right to health and happiness. Emotions are one argument but biology is another..." This process permanently destroys wetlands and riparian areas, and often results in channelized or buried streams. This valuable wildlife habitat is gone forever.

In the Tualatin River watershed, the destruction of these areas also results in warmer water temperatures, which are particularly harmful to our sensitive river system and the salmon that return to our waters to reproduce. Warmer water not only damages our river system—it also increases the burden on our wastewater utility provider, Clean Water Services, which is responsible for monitoring and meeting the legally mandated Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for temperature in the Tualatin River." Please for our future, let us proudly be associated with keeping Oregon green