

Dear Representative Witt,

I am President-Elect of the American Fisheries Society (a 9000 member professional association of fishery biologists) and a Research Senior Professor in the OSU Department of Fisheries & Wildlife. I am writing in opposition to the subject bill because as far as I know, key persons in our Department (including the current manager of the Hatchery Research Center), the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, and OWEB's Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (both of which were instrumental in assessing the need for such a facility) have not been consulted regarding the objectives of the bill nor how the operations of the proposed Hatchery Research Center Board will affect current and future research conducted at the Center. I am equally concerned about how the "emergency" nature of the bill will affect operations.

Please share my comment with the other members of your Committee.

Thank you all for your time and for your interest in the Center.

Robert M. Hughes