

Dear Senators and Representatives,

Myself and others are completely disturbed to see this type legislation back again we as miners and citizens of Oregon have done what has been asked of us by having to buy permits to dredge and follow DEQ's and DSL guidelines, we have been regulated so much that it has taken a toll on our well being, myself as well as others have spent a lot of money in equipment, fuel and other cost related to mining, we spend a lot of time working our claims which is required by BLM. It seems that miners are under attack and it never seems to end. I have been mining off and on since I was 25 years old spent hours reading and learning the rules and have abided by them all these years I am now 57 and still love the outdoors and river and have mined off and on all these years. I have spent time teaching new miner and just talking to the public and others about the history about mining and about what mining is now. I have spent many weekend camping, hiking, fishing and gold mining and enjoy all them. The State is wanting to take it all away, we know what mining has done in the past, but what we do now does not do what is claimed, we are all patrons of the land and we do not harm the fish and other invertebrates that inhabit the waters of the state. In fact we most likely help them in the mode of new homes and food. Look at what the BLM did to the loggers in the seventies and eighties in that they made them clean out all stream of all limbs' and other debris and this did nothing but took away the environment that they used to survive. Today they have change and gone back to the that worked for many years before the change in the seventies. Most of us have photos or video of fish in the waters we are working feeding on the foods we dislodge, we are fisherman and hunters. My family as well as many others will be drastically be hurt financially and emotionally if this legislation is passed, please do not to allow this to take place.

I have heard that this legislation is brought back to life because of a personal agenda's if so we as Oregonians stand to lose our heritage and industry because certain persons and groups have an agenda that is going to destroy yet another Oregon industry. We already lost timber revenues because of this same kind of agenda and our county's are all suffering. I hope you all won't let this happen again. Middle class Oregonians are struggling to make it through life already this will make things even harder. Placing a ban on any kind of placer mining "838, charging us more money for the use of public lands "SB370" and making nearly all Oregon waterways scenic "SB401", this is a outraged attack on mining in this state, seems that since we have a few persons that don't like mining, they are willing to stop at nothing until they get what they want. We voted you all into office to make the right choices if these Bills pass myself, my family and bunch of Oregonians will be in put into financial hardship just because a certain few decided that they don't like mining. With the allegations that has arisen from environmental groups and other anti mining groups and persons, we miners have proven all those allegations to be false but yet these allegations continue and it would be nice to see you all come out and see for yourselves what we do get out of the office enjoy the outdoors help us a little and you'll be able to keep what you find, don't allow these bills to pass, Please!!

My family and our heritage depend on you!!
Thank you for your time

Sincerely,
Terry Bowen