

Sent: Sunday, April 14, 2013 11:21 AM
To: Lutman Jennifer
Subject: SB 401

Dear Oregon Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources :
c/o jennifer.lutman@state.or.us;

If your house is on fire, if you are having a heart attack, if your car has broken down in the fast lane of I-5 during rush hour you are having an emergency. Amending ORS 390.805 to 390.925 by designating a plethora of additional waterways in Oregon as "Scenic" is not, may I repeat **NOT**, an emergency. The only emergency surrounding SB 401 will be the devastating impact it will have on private property owners that own property within the areas designated to be added under SB 401.

Our great country was founded on the belief that everyone is endowed with the right to Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness, which means acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety thereon. Apparently the authors of SB 401 do not believe in these rights of individuals and want to deprive the private property owners within the areas added under SB 401 of these rights. I agree that the regulations established by the Department of Parks and Recreation for Scenic Waterways may be appropriate for public lands, owned and maintained by government agencies for public benefit. They are not appropriate for private landowners whose property value may be decimated by the use limitations contained within the statutes.

Those of us who live on, or own property on one of Oregon's waterways want to be good stewards of our environment however; one cannot reverse the hands of time and return non public lands to the wilds of pre-pioneer days through legislation.

I would strongly recommend that the Oregon Legislature take a step back and carefully consider the ramifications the passage of SB 401 would have on the taxpaying property owners who would be penalized under its passage.

Sincerely,

Walter Reim

cc: Nadine Scott
McKenzie Clearwater Coalition

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