

Post Office Box 1038  
La Pine, Oregon 97739

House Committee on Energy and Environment  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE, Room 347  
Salem, Oregon 97301

April 16, 2013

Re: HB 3186, relating to sewage' creating new provisions.

Dear Chair Bailey and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to give testimony about House Bill 3186. I support the bill.

The Bill, including the dash one, addresses DEQ's aggressive septic system upgrade agenda. This led to misinformation, resulting in distrust by the local electorate. According to the available well test data, the La Pine Basin is not loading with nitrates. Findings do not support DEQ's agenda.

Under the dash one amendment, DEQ must consider economic impact to communities, a new concept using the Iowa model. The dash one requires that DEQ study the issues regarding a groundwater monitoring system. It also requires that DEQ develop a plan for providing assistance to affected communities. The dash one allows individual variances based on disadvantaged community criteria. The dash one also acts as a facilitating framework allowing implementation of the DEQ Steering Committee recommendations, if approved.

In conclusion, one question begs an answer:

What is more important, a band-aid approach to onsite wastewater treatment that accomplishes nothing substantial or a planned measured approach that does not economically kill a community?

In conclusion, I support this bill. I am disappointed that the Committee is not giving this bill a work session. I trust my testimony helps you understand the need for this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Bradler