



Walker Brothers
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February 3, 2014

State of Oregon House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Re: House Bill 4064

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Committee,

My name is Weston Walker and I am a fourth generation farmer and landowner in the Klamath Basin. I am writing today to express my opposition to House Bill 4064. This bill would erase years of hard work and cooperation by numerous water rights stakeholders and government agencies in one fell swoop.

The Final Order of Determination in the Klamath River Basin Adjudication was recently filed. The Order is the result of 30 plus years of collaboration by the State of Oregon, United States, several irrigation districts, drainage districts, the Klamath Tribes, various conservation groups and landowners in the Basin. The Order has findings based on Oregon Water Law, Western Water Law and the Prior appropriations doctrine. After investing millions of dollars in this process, this proposed legislation will prevent enforcement of this order and render it useless.

At this point, I have not seen how this legislation will be helpful or is needed now that we have the Final Order filed. The bottom line is very important to me as a taxpayer and the fiscal implications that I understand from this legislature would require a significant budget increase. Most of us are looking for ways to save on our taxes and this legislature would do the opposite.

In order to maintain the efforts of our community has established in the collaborative agreement recently filed I urge you to oppose House Bill 4064.

Sincerely,

Weston Walker
Partner