

MIKE McLANE
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 55



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 20, 2014

Chair Shields and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 4093 A. This bill will modify Oregon's current privacy laws to better conform to the federal Privacy Act. Federal groups such as the Natural Resources Conservation Services adhere to the Privacy Act while working with landowners on conservation projects. Conservation projects in Oregon will be better served by making an effort to protect the privacy of landowners, as this bill will do.

It is critical that landowners have the assurance their personal identifiable information (operation size, phone numbers, addresses, etc.) will not be disclosed by Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) to the public. Landowners may be hesitant to enter into a conservation agreement if they are unsure their personal information will remain confidential. HB 4093 A will not prevent the SWCD from disclosing information such as conservation measures (without personal information), habitat and trend conditions, and population information.

I reiterate my support for HB 4093 A. Preserving the privacy of landowners will encourage many of those same landowners to enter into conservation agreements, which will improve and protect Oregon's habitats. Colleagues, I urge you to vote "Yes" on House Bill 4093 A. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike McClane", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Representative Mike McClane
Oregon House Republican Leader