

Chairman Edwards, Members of the Committee,

My name is Brent Chayne. I'm a fourth-generation project farmer, the owner of a century farm and a member of the Klamath Irrigation District Board of Directors, though I'm not speaking for the board or the district but as a private citizen.

I am very alarmed by Senate Bill 206, as it appears this will help change the use of the Klamath Project to a multi-use project and will add fish and wildlife at 50 percent of use.

In their current forms, both SB 206 and SB 264 will prove ineffective, especially since there are no state or federal authorizations presently in place. Although they have been represented as having been achieved through consensus, the agreements were actually negotiated and drafted behind closed doors and completely outside of any proper public process. Confidentiality agreements and transparency are mutually exclusive.

This process involved the governor's office, the Oregon Department of Justice and the Water Resources Department, but in no way was the general public ever a part of these discussions. That is wrong.

State law, under ORS Chapter 540, prohibits the use of a supplemental water right on land from which the primary water right has been transferred and requires OWRD to cancel the supplemental water right in the event that the supplemental water right is used on that land. Will the temporary transfer cause you to not use a well under these circumstances?

As a Klamath County voter, I feel very well represented by Senator Doug Whitsett and State Representative Gail Whitsett. I can only hope that in the near future, I can begin to feel as well represented by the irrigation community leadership.

Thank you for your consideration.

Brent Chayne
Klamath Falls, OR