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**Testimony to the Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Natural Resources
HB 3415-A
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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

The Oregon Environmental Council opposes HB 3415-A. Unfortunately, this bill has been weakened substantially such that we are no longer in a position to support the proposed legislation.

The Oregon Environmental Council and our membership base believe that all Oregonians are entitled to clean air and clean water and that we must protect against practices that harm these important resources. There are well-documented and substantial concerns regarding hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," and impacts on local water and the health of both local residents and livestock.

A mere review and report on best practices is not enough to safeguard Oregon waterways, protect against methane leakage that harms the climate, address earthquake trigger concerns, or address the toxicity concerns of undisclosed fracking chemicals. In addition, the requirement that DOGAMI look to other states for best practices sets Oregon off on the wrong course, because no other states have adequate fracking regulations.

Lastly, because fracking is unlikely to come to Oregon in the next few years, there is no need to rush into legislative action. We would prefer to have discussions during the interim and come back to the legislature in a future session to address this important issue.

We favor that a moratorium on fracking in Oregon should be put in place.