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February 9, 2016

Senator Chris Edwards
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St.
Salem, OR

Re: SB 1563, Authorizes Environmental Quality Commission to Develop Low-Interest Loan Program for On-Site Septic System Repairs, Replacements, Upgrades or Evaluations, Support

Dear Chair Edwards and Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

Central Oregon LandWatch appreciates this opportunity to testify on and to support this bill. We are a non-profit organization which has for 30 years advocated for protection of natural resources, for support of livable communities and for compliance with Oregon's land use rules in Central Oregon.

Financial support to enable people to fix and upgrade their septic systems is not only necessary to protect drinking water and the environment but is necessary as a matter of social justice. We particularly support the proposed application not only to low income applicants but also to moderate income and small business applicants. Such support is necessary if we expect to actually solve ground water contaminant issues.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Dewey,
Executive Director

cc: Seth Prickett, seth@sethprickett.com, 503-451-0268

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