

## Smith Holly

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**From:** J H F <mayfair44@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 1:42 PM  
**To:** HEE Exhibits  
**Cc:** J H F  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of House Bill 2706

Dear Members of the House Committee on Energy and the Environment,

As a "native" Oregonian and avid angler, user of OUR Oregon's natural areas, and a water user, I support HB 2706. [I also support HB 2705 and HB 2707.] Although only part of the solution to Oregon's water management concerns, HB 2706 would atlas help. As you know, a recent audit of the Oregon Water Resources Department showed the agency to be chronically underfunded and lacked the money to manage Oregon's surface and groundwaters adequately. Obviously, to do their job, the Water Resources Department needs both the funds to do the job, and a stable funding source so that they will not be at the "whim" of an Oregon Legislature that does not see the value in the Department. And, as a water drinker and angler, I want adequate water in Oregon's rivers and streams for both fish and for me (as well as for agriculture, forests, and industrial users). Stable and adequate funding will allow the Department to fulfill its responsibilities of ensuring the long-term sustainability of Oregon's water supplies, thus help sustain Oregon's economy and quality of life.

Thank you.

J H F  
mayfair44 (at sign) [comcast.net](mailto:mayfair44@comcast.net)