

Smith Holly

From: JILL ZARNOWITZ <jill.z@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 12:23 PM
To: Reiley Beth
Subject: HB 2705, HB 2706, HB 2707

To the Honorable Representatives of the House Committee on Energy and Environment:

I support House Bills 2705, 2706 and 2707. These bills are long overdue for management of Oregon's water resources.

HB 2705 - Measurement of consumptive water use is essential to management of water. Currently most water rights are not measured, with the exception of cities and some water districts. The few studies that have been done in the past often showed that water for irrigation, especially flood irrigation was used beyond what was allowed in the water rights. Please implement water use measurement for all consumptive water rights.

HB 2706 - Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) is underfunded for its mandate to manage and distribute water in Oregon. Even a small fee on out-of-stream and groundwater rights would help to pay for much needed water studies and water management. Please implement a fee system on water use for Oregon.

HB 2707 - Studies of groundwater have been minimal compared to Oregonian's dependence on it for living, agriculture and commercial uses. OWRD's funding must be expanded to provide real data to its water management. Please provide funding for this essential part of water management.

Thank you for your time.

Jill Zarnowitz