

Smith Holly

From: Carolyn and Martin Winch <candmwinch@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 16, 2017 10:08 AM
To: HEE Exhibits
Subject: support HB 2706

We live in Rep. Lininger's / Sen. Devlin's districts. We ranched in the Tumalo Irrigation District in Deschutes County for many years, and still own a small non-irrigated parcel there.

I was on the Board of the TID a few years after it instituted a "user fee" of \$80, in 1972, (in addition to the traditional "operation & maintenance" fee - \$5.50/acre). TID instituted its first user fee in 1970, called a "base fee" - it was \$27.50 per water rights holder. A "user fee" has been charged every year since that time.

Such a fee is reasonable and customary. A water right is a license to use public property under certain conditions. It is the user's responsibility to use the water according to these conditions, and the state's responsibility to manage this natural resource with adequate personnel and information.

We thank you for moving HB 2705 and 2707 ahead.

We ask you to do the same with HB 2706.

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