

**Testimony of Lauri Aunan,  
Governor's Natural Resources Office**

**House Bill 2099-A  
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
May 31, 2017**

Chair Dembrow and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 2099-A. The issues and concerns on both sides of this bill are significant and difficult, and highlight the importance of investing in water infrastructure projects for rural areas, economies and ecosystems, and investing in water data and responsible water management.

The bill seeks to address the concerns of municipalities that are planning and investing to meet water needs of today and water for future growth and economic development. But solutions for municipal water needs should also help support threatened and endangered salmon and other native fish species that are a precious natural and cultural resource and important for Oregon's recreational and commercial fisheries.

The Governor's Natural Resources Office has concerns about how HB 2099-A may affect important rivers and streams that support endangered salmon and other native fish. We're encouraged that the parties have continued to work on amendments to meet the needs of communities and our fish and watersheds. At the time of writing this testimony, our office had not seen the most recent amendment language.

Thank you for your consideration.