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To the Rules Committee,
Oregon State Senate

Re: Support for Proposed Amendment to HB 2873

Please be advised that I represent 3 entities, all considered "irrigation districts" and all located within the Klamath Project. They are Sunnyside Irrigation District, Klamath Basin Improvement District and Poe Valley Improvement District.

Klamath Project districts have explored the possibilities of transferring water rights within the Klamath Project and are informed by OWRD that SB 206 does not provide for process of transfers of water rights within the Klamath Project as anticipated. Such transfers would be more efficient use of water and also improve cost efficiency to landowners and districts.

It is my understanding the simple Amendment considered by your Committee today at 1:00 p.m. could fix the water right transfer problems encountered. The Klamath Project should not be punished because the Klamath Adjudication is not complete. Irrigation continues within the Klamath Project, but we are told many transfers are presently not available.

The legislative committee is urged to support this straightforward amendment that will provide irrigation districts within the Klamath Project the same management flexibility as other Oregon Districts outside of the Klamath Project.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Richard Fairclo

RF:gb
C: Clients