



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Parks and Recreation Department

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February 13, 2018

Chair Clem and Members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee:

RE: HB 4029

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has no position on HB 4029.

The Scenic Waterways Act was created to strike a balance between protecting the natural resources, scenic value, and recreational uses of Oregon's rivers in the program. As the administrator of the Scenic Waterways program, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department would be happy to be a participant in a locally-led collaborative process along with local, state and federal agencies and stakeholders to discuss recreation and trail planning activities along the Deschutes River.

The Scenic Waterways program seeks to balance protection and use through cooperation between federal, state, and local agencies as well as individual property owners and those who recreate along a waterway. In all 22 designated scenic waterways, OPRD strives to work in collaboration with local stakeholders to achieve the program goals. Our staff routinely partner with counties, state agencies and interested parties to share notifications and other information we receive before making final decisions.

We understand there is a lot of passion on all sides of this issue. Throughout the process, OPRD has been committed to following our administrative responsibilities within the Scenic Waterways program and remain dedicated to that pursuit.

Sincerely,

Lisa Sumption, Director
Oregon Parks and Recreation Director