

May 12, 2019

In regard to: HB 3099A

Honorable Committee members:

I write both to thank and applaud the members of the Senate Committee on Business and General Government for seeking to clarify Oregon's convoluted county service district law.

As former chair of the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District Advisory Board and former president of the Happy Valley City Council, I am intimately familiar with the circumstances surrounding HB 3099A. Given my experience, I believe that the technical correction preformed through HB 3099A not only creates fairness in the county service district withdrawal process but encourages long term success for jurisdictions after they successfully withdraw from a service district.

On the Matter Fairness

Although HB 3099A would permit cities to initiate the process of withdrawing from a service district, cities would not have the final say. Rather, this bill would rest final authority in the voters most impacted by a city's withdrawal. Specifically, the same voters who elected to join a service district are the same voters who must elect to leave a service district.

Future Success

HB 3099A is not about refereeing a local dispute. The purpose of HB 3099A is to prevent similar disputes from occurring in the future by clarifying processes.

Thank you for considering the many benefits of HB 3099A.

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