



**Testimony by City of Wilsonville Mayor Tim Knapp Supporting HB 4071:**

***Proposed Legislation Improves State's Ability to Coordinate and Respond to Harmful Algal Blooms that Impact Public Domestic Water Supplies***

Scheduled for public hearing on February 4, 2020, before the House Committee on Water

**Chair Helm, Vice-Chairs Leif and Reardon, and Members of the Committee:**

On behalf of the City of Wilsonville City Council, I am testifying in support of HB 4071 and the accompanying -1 amendment.

The City of Wilsonville operates a municipal domestic water-supply system on the Willamette River that was one of several public water systems impacted by Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) in 2018. Subsequently, the City was appointed by the legislature to serve during 2019 on the HAB workgroup led by Representatives Marty Wilde and Jack Zika.

HB 4071 is the product of the HAB workgroup that was charged with making recommendations to the legislature regarding:

1. Short and long term needs around monitoring vulnerable waterbodies and developing predictive modeling associated with HABs.
2. Emergency measures and resilience preparation for public drinking water systems in the event of a cyanotoxin outbreak.
3. Coordination and cooperation between the state legislature, state agencies, local governments, special districts, municipal water providers, and utility districts to provide and fund testing and monitoring activities.

HB 4071 appropriates funds to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the purchase of a machine to analyze water samples for cyanotoxins and for DEQ for staff to collect water samples and assist with analysis. HB 4071 also appropriate funds to the Oregon Health Authority for a Small Utility Outreach Coordinator to work with small water suppliers and water suppliers who depend on a vulnerable water body to make sure they have plans, tools, and training to address HABs and other water-related emergencies.

HB 4071 provides the State the ability for timely collection and testing capacity and improved multi-agency coordination as shown was needed during the 2018 HABs incidents that impacted the public domestic water supplies of multiple communities in Oregon.

The City of Wilsonville respectfully urges a DO PASS vote on HB 4071. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tim Knapp, Mayor  
City of Wilsonville