

HB 2594 - Eminent Domain on waterways on private property.

"more bureaucracy is not better bureaucracy!"

Bureaucracies that would be involved:

Oregon Health Authority

Oregon Department of Forestry

Department of Environmental Quality

This puts a ton of distance between the landowner and what we can do with our own land, when we're already regulated and produce high water quality because of it.

This is a land grab.

Oregon Health Authority would use eminent domain to secure conservation easements that restrict activities affecting water on private property.

We already have existing regulations for drinking water overseen by the state's DEQ.

Streams that exceed the DEQ's maximum thresholds for sediment and other pollutants are already subject to regulatory action by ODF.

This bill would also create a process for water utilities to petition for stronger protections in their watersheds and consult with OHA and the Department of Environmental Quality to ensure domestic use streams are properly classified.

Roughly half the forested watersheds that community water systems rely on are owned by private landowners who are already subject to the state's forest practices regulations.