



Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District

June 6, 2023

TESTMONY STATEMENT

To: Senate Committee on Rules

From: Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District

Subject: SB 775

Chair Lieber and Committee Members,

The Board of Directors for the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD) hereby states our opposition to SB 775. We feel the current pathways available for those interested in Board participation are sufficient and effective.

At CSWCD, our 7-member Board currently has 4 positions held by individuals who own less than the required 10 acres of land. Two at large positions and two Directors who followed the Associate Director track to become voting Board members, without having to meet the minimum landownership criteria. We feel that there are mechanisms available for Districts to engage those who support our conservation mission and want to contribute.

We feel that the population threshold should not be the sole criteria for this Bill, and that the concerns and needs of a small number of Districts do not merit change for Districts throughout the State.

Thank you for your consideration.

On behalf of the CSWCD Directors,

Jeff Becker
Board Chair