I OPPOSE [HB 3163].

The "Text of [HB 3163]" states, "SECTION 1. The Place-Based Water Planning Fund is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund... Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Water Resources Department for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of section 2 of this 2023 Act."

The "Place-Based Water Planning Fund (PBWPF)" appropriations to the Water Resources Department is going to create a myriad of administrative issues requiring more staff and overheads to support. The PBWPF will increase the size of the Water Resources Department.

"...Before issuing funding under subsection (2) or (5) of this section, the Water Resources Director shall consult with the Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Health Authority, State Department of Agriculture and State Department of Fish and Wildlife to understand agency capacity to participate in developing a place-based integrated water resources plan." Each one of aforementioned Agencies will be required to have dedicated staff and overheads to cogently participate in the farcically concocted [HB 3163].

There is "No" language as to the need for financial and performance audits to keep pace with the "state-wide Grant allocations, staff increases and overhead costs, and the overall costs of the individual program(s)."

There will also be "political pressures" brought by interested parties to make sure their projects receive "Grant" funding. Lobbyists will "smell blood in the water." Will Lobbyists receive "contracts for services?" Don't forget the conniving pernicious, parasites politely referred to as the "non-profit corporations." They'll want their handouts.

There is "No" structure given to the facilitation costs (which is another area rife for corruption).

Basically, I Oppose "SECTION 2" in its' entirety.

[HB 3163] has good ideas but, as it is written, will be very costly, exceptionally inefficient and will breed corruption if left professionally unchecked.

**To make life simpler for me, I request the Legislature, to issue me, a "Tax-refund (kicker)" so I will not have to support any facet of [HB 3163].

David S. Wall

Mr. Oregon Concurs and says, "Equity, environmental justice communities-Wokeism is in the house."

///

/// ///