
OREGON ONSITE WASTEWATER STAKE HOLDERS

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 931

Testimony before the Senate Committee on Natural Resources / March 15, 2023

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Chair Golden and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Onsite Wastewater Association (O2WA) is an organization supporting persons engaged in the design, installation, maintenance, pump and regulation of onsite wastewater treatment and disposal systems. O2WA and the National Onsite Wastewater Association (NOWRA) provide quality education and training for new employees and refreshers for experienced employees. Our organizations also promote the development of new and improved practices, policies, and uniform standards.

O2WA appreciates Senator Meek introducing Senate Bill 931 for consideration. We recognize and agree this is an important issue and it needs to be elevated to a full discussion by all impacted stakeholders. O2WA is very interested in engaging on this issue to ensure the solution is right-sized, and recognizes the diversity of development in the different regions of our state.

Our preference would be for stakeholders – led by Senator Meek -- to meet after session concludes to thoroughly discuss the consequences, and potential unintended consequences, of any changes to ensure a final product is well vetted. The results of an interim workgroup could be presented to the February, 2024 session positioned as “ready to move”.

That being said, if the will of the committee is to move something forward this session, we will do our best to provide our expertise under the time constraints of legislative deadlines.

Thank you.