

February 14, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources

Re: **SB 58**

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Girod, and Committee Members;

Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 58

Dear Chair Golden and Members of the Natural Resources Committee:

My name Seth Crawford, Crook County Judge in Prineville, Oregon. I am writing to request your support for SB 58. As more demands are placed on our natural resources it's imperative that the state begins to investigate ways to not only protect our natural resources but also to enhance them particularly when it comes to water.

SB 58 was written to investigate the opportunity that cloud seeding could bring to drought stricken basins throughout Oregon. Oregon is one of the top 5 seed growing regions in the world. The specialty seed industry is valued at \$400 million and the vegetable specialty seed contained within that is worth \$50 million annually. Perennial water supply shortages not only threaten this industry but also the communities that have economic ties to the specialty seed industry. Oregon farmers need water supply certainty to remain competitive in national and world markets. We must find ways, conventional or unconventional, to balance climate variability when it comes to ensuring Oregon agriculture remains productive.

We would all be remis, given current water supply scenario's throughout the state, if we didn't take the opportunity to begin to investigate methods that can help alleviate perennial water shortages - SB 58 does just that. I support legislation that calls for the investigation into cloud seeding in Oregon.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Judge Seth Crawford  
Crook County