

Submitter: Scott Siracusa

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and
Water

Measure: HB2765

South Suburban Sanitary District ("District") is an Oregon special district within Klamath County that collects, treats, and discharges approximately 1.5 million gallons per day of wastewater for approximately 23,000 citizens.

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has modified the permitting requirements for discharging treated wastewater, which affects the District's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for discharging treated wastewater into Lake Ewauna, headwaters of the Klamath River.

The District must make significant, costly upgrades to its wastewater treatment plant to comply with the new DEQ requirements, which will create an enormous financial burden for the citizens within the District.

Our community is experiencing very serious issues created by severe multi-year drought (see attached images).

It is in the best interest of the citizens of Klamath County to utilize the reuse quality water discharges produced by the required expensive infrastructure upgrades to do the most public good for the citizens, local economy, wildlife refuges, and wildlife habitat.

Engineers with West Yost and Associates have estimated the cost of the required pipeline to convey the reuse quality water to areas impacted by the severe multi-year drought to be about \$20 million dollars.