

Submitted By:

Submitted on: 25 March 2022

Testimony in support of: House Bill 2765: Relating to treated wastewater discharged by the South Suburban Sanitary District; declaring an emergency.

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

Dear Chair Helm Vice-Chairs Hartman and Owens and members of the committee,

My name is Richard Schuster. I am Citizen of Klamath County.

We all must absolutely support this bill to save our wildlife and refuge systems. We currently allow nearly all our "extra" water from this year's winter to flow downstream and out into the ocean while tens of thousands of migrating waterfowl have perished in one of our state's most precious resources; Klamath Lake, Lower Klamath and Tule Lake Wildlife Refuge systems. Before reclamation efforts, this complex ensured hundreds of thousands of migrating birds had a place of rest, food, cover and nesting- something that benefits the entire Pacific Coast Flyway. Now, we artificially restrict this water and place it into the river system where it flushes to the ocean. This bill helps to reestablish this watershed and ensure all the lost resources are available for our wildlife and our ever lowering water table. This bill is a GREAT common sense first step in managing our resources responsibly, and being good stewards of our local environment. PLEASE VOTE YES.

I respectfully encourage you to vote YES on HB 2765.

Respectfully,

Richard Schuster

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