

Submitter: wayne amos

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: HB2765

Submitted By: Wayne Amos, 1031 Eldorado, Klamath Falls, Oregon

Submitted on: 3/29/23

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

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Water

Dear Chair Helm Vice-Chairs Hartman and Owens and members of the committee, My name is Wayne Amos. I am a resident of Klamath Falls and have lived here for the past 26 years.

HB 2765 would allow clean water from Suburban Sanitary District to Lower Klamath Lake and the Klamath Refuges. It would also provide needed water to the refuge thru the Klamath River and provide clean water throughout the entire system to the Pacific Ocean.

The proposal would grant the District the exclusive right to use its treated wastewater for the general use that benefits people, fish and wildlife within and outside the district. It would also recognize the districts existing wastewater discharges that are adding new water to the Klamath River system and would add clarity of the discharges that are not considered part of the natural stream flow. The proposal would recognize how the District may utilize or sell the water right for public, wildlife, fish, and refuge use.

If passed the proposal would enhance the entire Klamath River Drainage and entities that are attached to it for its overall use, dependence, and survival throughout the entire Klamath River. It also benefits fish and wildlife habitat, along with people downstream. The proposal would also aid in some of the harm that has resulted in severe droughts to the area over the past few decades. Many migratory birds, wildlife species, fish and amphibians, have been impacted that by the habitat created by irrigation of lands downstream and Wildlife refuges to survive and thrive.

In closing please help us utilize this multiuse alternative as it seems to be in the best interest of the citizens, local economy, and wildlife habitat and refuges of Klamath Rivers systems from the rivers origin to its departure in the Pacific Ocean. HB 2765 is a win for people, environment, wildlife, fish, and wildlife refuge. We all win!!

Respectfully,

Wayne Amos