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March 7, 2023

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court St. NE Salem Oregon 97301

**Re: HB 3207 – Support**

Chair Helm, Vice Chair Hartman, Vice Chair Owens, and members of the committee,

For the record, my name is Cheyenne Holliday, and I am the water justice coordinator at Verde. I am grateful for the opportunity to testify on the behalf of Verde in support of HB 3207.

Verde is a community-based organization that serves communities by building environmental wealth. We work with communities across the state to uplift their personal experiences and stories to bring their voices to water policy and decision-making processes and we share education and information on water, including water quality, to ensure there is clean accessible water and information for all. We have worked with the Oregon Water Futures Collaborative to engage with hundreds community members across the state to produce the Oregon Water Futures Report and Policy Action Framework.

We continue to hear from community members about questions and concerns of their water quality, especially from community members who live in rural areas and have domestic wells. If this bill passes, it will create a more equitable and accessible process for Oregon residents to access water quality information and help public health officials to monitor potential areas of concern.

By requiring the well water test results associated with real estate transactions to be reported to the state by the labs and not the seller. Under the present system, only 10% of crucial data is reported. This new approach would ensure more accurate and complete data. This will help more everyday people on wells understand their drinking water quality and help community organizations like Verde to identify concentrations of families who may need resources and education. With HB 3207, we can address the groundwater quality data gap and help state and public agencies get the information they need to confirm water quality concerns and provide support. It's not about point fingers but helping people in need.

Verde urges the committee to support HB 3207, and by doing so ensure clean and safe drinking water and data for Oregonians.

Thank you for your time,

Cheyenne Holliday,  
Water Justice Coordinator, Verde