

Submitter: Dan Keeley  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1153

Hon. members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire

I oppose this bill for a number of reasons:

1. The Oregon Water Resources Department is already severely under staffed with ridiculous wait times. This bill will add an extra burden on staff which cannot be efficiently addressed.
2. The proposal will also promote legal challenges of transfers. Just what we need, more court cases from folks with no understanding of agriculture.
3. A transfer is an exercise of an existing right for more efficient use of water. It promotes efficient use of water for most economic benefit. Would you rather the farmer irrigated bare ground or a low value crop just to maintain his or her water right?
4. There are already multiple protections of stream flows which are, at least allegedly, balanced against rights of water users. This proposal adds another layer in a continuing attempt to smother commercial agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment  
Dan Keeley