

## Smith Holly

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**From:** Campana, Michael <Michael.Campana@oregonstate.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 8:37 AM  
**To:** HEE Exhibits  
**Subject:** Support for HB 2705; 2706 and 2706

Dear Chairman Helm:

I support passage of HB 2705, HB 2706 and HB 2707. I will be unable to appear in person today but will provide my comments below.

Let me give you a little bit about my background and qualifications. I have been a hydrogeologist (PhD in hydrology from the University of Arizona) for over 40 years, teaching and practicing since 1973. I am currently a Professor of Hydrogeology and Water Resources Management at Oregon State University and the volunteer Technical Director of the American Water Resources Association, a professional society. I also run a publicly-supported 501(c)(3) nonprofit, the Ann Campana Judge Foundation, that undertakes and supports drinking water and sanitation projects in rural Honduras and Nicaragua. Finally, let me divulge that I am the current Chair of the State's Groundwater Advisory Committee (GWAC), a volunteer group of citizens providing advice to the Oregon Water Resources Commission.

The comments and opinions expressed herein are mine and mine alone and not those of the aforementioned organizations.

It is appropriate that the hearings on your bills are occurring on March 22, the day we observe World Water Day. On this day, we celebrate our most precious natural resource and reaffirm our commitment to stewardship and protection of Earth's waters. In Oregon, the State's waters belong to all citizens, not to individuals or organizations. Consequently, we all have a responsibility to sustainably manage and protect all Oregon waters, not just the ones we can see. Groundwater is especially

vulnerable because it is invisible and presents the illusion of eternal availability. We know that's not true, but we do little about it.

Your three bills present a significant opportunity to do something about Oregon's waters, especially groundwater. I am especially pleased to see the metering aspect because we cannot properly manage a resource when we neither know how much we have nor how much we use. That's especially true of groundwater. Increased funds for the Oregon Water Resources Department are essential. I have great respect for the women and men of OWRD and what they accomplish with very limited resources. They deserve more support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for more information or assistance.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to comment - and for your vision.

/s/ Michael E. Campana

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WaterWired blog: <http://www.waterwired.org>  
WaterWired Twitter: <http://twitter.com/waterwired>

NGWA Groundwater Week, December 2017, Nashville, TN <http://www.groundwaterweek.com>

**AWRA Conferences**

1) 2017 Spring - Connecting the Dots: The Emerging Science of Aquatic System Connectivity  
30 April - 3 May, Snowbird, UT <http://bit.ly/2b9cNfW>

2) 2017 Summer - Climate Change Solutions, 25 - 28 June, Tysons, VA <http://bit.ly/2fzkNuQ>

3) 2017 Annual Water Resources Conference, 5 - 9 November, Portland, OR <http://bit.ly/2g2OgcZ>