

From: [Jan Lee](#)
To: [Exhibits HAGLU](#)
Subject: HB 2958
Date: Monday, February 25, 2019 12:46:02 PM

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RE: HB 2958

Chair Clem and Committee Members:

I am a member of the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District board and have been an active elected member countywide of the district board for 10 years and served for 10 years prior as an associate director (appointed). I reside in the city of Sandy and do not own or manage 10 acres of land, but I was elected as one of the two at-large seats each of the districts has available in addition to 5 specific zone seats. Most of our zone representatives reside in rural areas and half of our county is owned by the federal government. I am speaking on my own behalf.

If a member of the public does not own agriculture or forest land, that person can run as an at-large member as I have so I do not feel that people are being disenfranchised from running for our district boards. Further, if you volunteer as an associate director as I have in the past, you can even run for one of the zone seats after serving one year as an associate director and having a conservation plan. That plan can be either an urban or a rural plan. So there are already two ways to self-nominate under the existing law. We have had a number of people run for at-large seats and a couple people serve as associates, moving up to zone directors, in our district's experience.

The goal of conservation districts is to provide technical services for landowners with agricultural and forest lands while also providing some urban services to our city residents. I urge that the election process remain the same so that we can continue to serve our constituents countywide with the ability to use our elected volunteers who have skills and knowledge of local lands, along with our staff, to further conservation goals countywide. There are already opportunities for non-landowners to self nominate in the two at-large seats and by serving as a volunteer associate director. I see no compelling reason to amend the current law.

Jan Lee
Sandy, OR resident
Board member, Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District