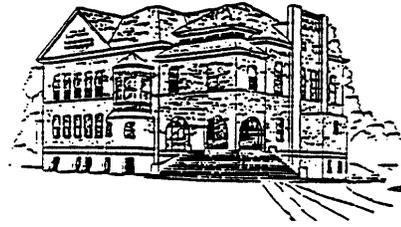


Wells County Water Resource District

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Chairman Patten & Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 2326.

My name is Chad Reimche. I am a landowner in Wells County and also serve on the Wells County Water Resource District Board of Managers.

I submit this written testimony in support of Senate Bill 2326. Economic evaluations help distributors, like the State Water Commission, compare the value of impact created by cost-share funding for flood control and water conveyance projects with the cost of those funds. Smart economic analysis tools help show the state that investment in these projects is good for the state's economy.

Analyzing the value of impact of a project, though, comes with a cost. The Economic Analysis Worksheet tool used by the State Water Commission takes time and costs money to complete. The cost of analyzing the project's economics requires further employment of the project's engineers and increases the cost of the project passed on to taxpayers. Because of this, it is important that the legislature consider an appropriate threshold for projects that should, and projects that should not, require economic analysis as a condition of cost-share funding eligibility.

I believe that \$1 million is a good threshold for determining whether economic analysis should be applied to cost-share funding.

I encourage a "Do Pass" recommendation on Senate Bill 2326. I request the opportunity to testify in person before the committee and will stand for any questions. Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

Chad Reimche, Board of Managers Member
Wells County Water Resource District