



1995 Third Street
Baker City, Oregon 97814

February 13, 2013

Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE, Room 347
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: SB 331 Testimony
Rural Communities and Economic Development Committee

The Honorable Chair and Members;

Baker County is in favor of Senate Bill 331, reallocation of RV registration fees at an equitable rate of 50 percent to Counties and 50 percent to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

County Parks play an important role across the state and are closely tied to local communities. While Oregon State Parks and County Parks complement each other, it has become increasingly difficult to address maintenance needs at the local level. The pain of declining budgets is shared, but not equally. Oregon Parks and Recreation has been funded at a level greater than most other natural resources departments.

In the spirit of cooperation among agencies, the consideration of increasing the money distributed to county parks is in the best interest of the state recreation system as a whole. Providing outstanding recreational opportunities that benefit the entire state must be the ultimate goal.

The redistribution of RV Registration fees should be fair and equitable. It is time to build a system that advocates for outdoor recreation across the board.

Please join Baker County in supporting SB 331.

Sincerely,


Dr. Carl Stiff, Commissioner
Baker County Board of Commissioners