



## SID LEIKEN

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Lane County Commissioner  
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DATE: February 24, 2014

TO: Joint Committee on Ways and Means Sub-Committee on Natural Resources

RE: SB 1514, relating to the distribution of moneys to counties from the State Parks and Recreation Department Fund

Co-Chair Edwards, Co-Chair and Members of the Sub-Committee:

The Lane County Board of Commissioners has examined SB 1514 and urges a DO PASS recommendation on this measure today. We were involved in seeking a solution during the 2013 regular session, and are very appreciative of the many hands that went into getting SB 1514 in front of you today.

The Lane County Parks Division has been solely funded with non-general fund resources for years, and we believe the nexus between Recreational Vehicle registration fees and the operations of county campgrounds and parks is clear. With budget authority over the Parks Division, we have been clear in our directive to seek a more diverse revenue portfolio. This source of funding completes the revenue stream that enables our network of campground and other recreational sites. Other revenue comes from:

- The county's car rental tax
- The county's transient room tax
- User fees from parking, camping, marinas, and picnic reservations
- The State Marine Board (for our marine deputy program)
- Grants, partnerships, and event revenue

By establishing an equitable registration fee split, and providing the certainty that the split will remain in place, SB 1514 will serve to bolster our ability to maintain county parks across Lane County. Moreover, we are pleased that the bill develops a process to continue pragmatic conversations about how to best operate county and state parks with as much efficiency as possible by examining potential land swaps or other agreements related to ownership and management of parklands.

SB 1514 is good public policy and will ensure the continuation of beneficial county and state partnerships that the public expects.

