



Oregon

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**Testimony of
Bill Ryan, Assistant Director
Aquatic Resource Management Program
Department of State Lands
on
House Bill 2461
House Committee on Rural Communities,
Land Use and Water
February 5, 2015**

State Land Board

John A. Kitzhaber, MD
Governor

Kate Brown
Secretary of State

Ted Wheeler
State Treasurer

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today in support of HB 2461, which would add language back to ORS 274.043 to allow the Department of State Lands to offer lower-cost registrations for small, non-commercial structures on state-owned submerged and submersible lands. Examples include docks and boathouses associated with private residences on waterways such as Devils Lake and the Willamette River.

In 2011 the Legislature passed Senate Bill 600, creating a number of changes to the statute – mostly creating new exemptions to leasing requirements. However, language that allowed the Department to establish lower-cost registrations through rulemaking was inadvertently removed. We do not believe this was intentional, and therefore propose HB 2461 to address the issue.

The Department has been offering registrations since 1998, and would like to continue this practice for the thousands of property owners who have benefitted from this lower-cost option for many years. If this is not addressed, the Department would need to inform all property owners with small, non-commercial structures that their structure now requires a much higher-cost lease.

Thank you, and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.