

Please record my Testimony for the record.

Chairman Rep Brian Clem and committee members,

I urge support of passing legislation that promotes the Transfer of Public Lands to the State.

Local control and management of lands by the State is more preferable as they have a fiduciary responsibility to generate revenues from state trust lands, while federal land agencies face overlapping and conflicting regulations and often lack a clear mandate, which is clear in the fact of poor forest management practices that have resulted in catastrophic wildfires and tremendous loss of revenue to the State.

The change from Federal to State will increase the number of State jobs and revenue will stay in Oregon!

While private enterprise in recreation will flourish. Where rules in regards to Hunting and fishing, timber and grazing will be made at the local level where Oregonians will have a more direct voice through our Representatives. Whereas other States have a larger voice under Federal rule to what happens in Oregon lands.

Who will hold the best environment standards than those that will be closest and live in the State. The one size fits all just does not work where Oregon may not fit the Federal mold that is placed upon us.

I cite that Illinois in 1849 had the same operative statehood language as Oregon with 95% of their land in Federal control. Illinois argued that federal control of its lands restricted the ability to improve, protect, and manage its resources, limiting its opportunities to generate revenue on terms of equality with states to their east. The same hold true today as it was in 1849.

HB3240 will establish a Task Force that will consider how land management would have to change in order to generate revenues under state control.

Thank you for considering the advancement of Transferring Federal land back to the State.

Bob Sowdon
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Oregon Citizens Lobby

