



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of State Lands

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-1279

(503) 986-5200

FAX (503) 378-4844

www.oregon.gov/dsl

**Testimony of
Christopher Castelli, Senior Policy and Legislative Analyst at the
Department of State Lands
on
House Bill 2463-A3
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
June 1, 2015**

State Land Board

Kate Brown
Governor

Jeanne P. Atkins
Secretary of State

Ted Wheeler
State Treasurer

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2463-A3. The –A3 amendment sets reasonable sideboards in statute to the Department’s notification process prior to removing a structure that is deemed to be abandoned or derelict. This amendment expands on the existing requirements under the Administrative Procedures Act. However, the Department recognizes the sensitivity to the issues of jurisdiction, or deeming a structure “abandoned” or “derelict”. We find the proposed statutory requirements to be reasonable. The Department intends to further refine the notification process through rulemaking, as directed under Section 4 of this bill.

For the record, the Department wants to state that it is not the intention of this bill that a notice of seizure is to be construed as an assertion of title under ORS 274.402(2). The Department is required in the notice to “Identify, with specificity, the department’s proprietary interest in and jurisdiction over the state-owned submerged or submersible lands that the structure is on, under or over.” This notice is not intended to constitute an assertion of ownership, and any person with a potential interest may use all legal remedies available to challenge the Department’s proprietary interest.

Lastly, the Department would like to thank Ms. Jennie Bricker and Mr. Matt Markee for meeting with us to discuss revisions. We appreciate the collaborative effort, and believe that it is has resulted in a better bill. We also want to thank Assistant Attorney General Mr. Matt DeVore for his assistance in the amendment process.

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