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Via Email

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2225A

Dear Chair Dembrow and the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

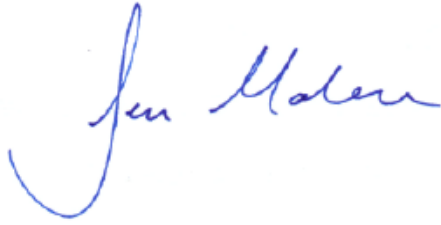
As an active land use attorney, I am writing to lend my support to HB 2225A. Over the past 10 years, I have witnessed the adverse impact of increased residential development within forestlands. In Lane County, forestland development oftentimes comes at a price to water availability for surrounding residences, intrusion into big game range, and the potential for increased fire risks.

This bill would close loopholes that were not considered when the legislature initially passed the forest template provisions into law. For example, it was not foreseen that landowners would use property line adjustments to adjust small units of land that could not otherwise qualify for a dwelling by walking property boundaries so as to satisfy the soils or template tests. This bill would remedy that problem, amongst others.

The bill also ensures that landowners who have adjusted their properties will comply with the provisions for property line adjustments, found in ORS 92.192. The bill strikes a balance by being prospective and not affecting landowners who have already adjusted their property.

For the reasons above, I support the HB 2225A to close loopholes that have adversely affected forestlands throughout the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sean T. Malone". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "S" that loops back under the first name.

Sean T. Malone
Attorney at Law