



February 25, 2020

Senator Michael Dembrow
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301
HR C

re: HB4012 -8

Senator Dembrow and Committee members:

The Department of State Lands is charged to manage state-owned common school trust lands to the benefit of Oregonians and the Common School Fund.

As the landowner, on behalf of the state, of the Stevens Road tract, DSL does see the potential of an accelerated inclusion of this piece of land into Bend's UGB. This opportunity could benefit not only the Common School Fund but the many Oregonians facing a housing crisis, particularly in the Bend area. Inasmuch as the potential for this dual benefit exists, DSL sees the value of engaging the TDOs as a means of bringing this piece of property into the Bend UGB.

This bill allows for DSL to become the holder of the TDOs and apply them to the 260 acres of the Stevens Road tract that is currently outside of the UGB. This would allow for the Department to list this tract for sale much sooner than otherwise anticipated, which stands to benefit the Common School Fund.

Key for DSL is that this bill allows for DSL, the current TDO owner, and the City of Bend to pursue this opportunity but does not bind DSL to a process beyond the Common School Fund's interest.

We appreciate the opportunity to consider the state's options to benefit the Common School Fund as well as the fact that this is an option, not a mandate. To that end, as written in the -8s, DSL appreciates the opportunity to explore the use of the TDOs for the Stevens Road tract.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Ryan".

Bill Ryan
Deputy Director
Oregon Department of State Lands