



OREGON LAND TITLE ASSOCIATION

RE: SB 765 Relating to notaries; declaring an emergency.

Chair Prozanski and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110 Implementation,

Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit comments on SB 765. The Oregon Land Title Association (OLTA) is the professional association for the title insurance industry in Oregon, and membership includes title insurance underwriters and underwritten agent companies, many of which are locally owned throughout the State. OLTA promotes the educational, ethical, professional and legislative interests of the title industry. OLTA works with regulators, legislators and the public to ensure the title industry is responsive to evolving customer needs.

If passed, this bill will provide for remote online notarization (RON) in Oregon on a permanent basis. RON provisions were enacted temporarily effective June 30, 2020, as Chapter 12, Oregon Laws 2020 First Special Session (HB 4212, Sections 19-31).

During the pandemic, RON legislation has provided a secure alternative to in-person notary acknowledgement appearances at a time when Oregon citizens sought and benefitted from this flexibility. On a permanent basis, RON complements and completes the requirements for electronic real estate transactions.

OLTA supports SB 765. This legislative concept was developed by an Oregon Law Commission workgroup with participation by multiple interested parties. In particular, OLTA has appreciated working with Ruth Miles, Corporation Division Director at the office of the Oregon Secretary of State.

Thank you.

**Submitted by Patricia Ihnat, Chair, OLTA Legislative Committee
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