



## **Testimony in Support of SB 890**

### **presented to the 2023 Senate Committee On Natural Resources**

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) consists of seven members, and that one member must be appointed from each congressional district in the state, one member must reside west of the summit of the Coast Mountain Range, and one member must reside east of the summit of the Cascade Mountain Range.

Following the 2020 census, the number of congressional districts in Oregon increased from five to six, reflecting an increase in the state's population. This change creates a conflict with the statutory directive for the Commission membership.

SB 890 modifies the composition of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission membership while retaining the 7-member total. SB 890 requires that the Governor appoint at least one member from each congressional district, rather than exactly one member from each district. We support the additional criteria for the Governor to consider outdoor recreation interests, heritage interests, racial, ethnic and gender diversity in appointments of all members of the Commission.

SB 890 requires that the Governor appoint at least one member that resides west of the summit of the Coast Mountain Range and east of the summit of the Cascade Mountain Range, rather than exactly one member from each region.

SB 890 provides a straightforward and simple modification to the foundational process setting the composition of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission membership while retaining the seven member total.

OPRD is a statewide organization and it is important that the membership of the Parks and Recreation commission reflect its statewide mission.

SB 890 should also provide a solid basis for revision of other state Boards and Commissions statutes required by Oregon's new Congressional District.

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