

Oregon Association of County Clerks

oacclerks.org

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Written Testimony before the Senate Rules Committee in Support of House Bill 2033

Dear Chair Lieber, Vice-Chair Knopp, and Senators Hansell, Manning, and Steiner,

The Oregon Association of County Clerks (OACC) urges you to support House Bill 2033, which passed by a vote of 60 to 0 in the House.

County Clerks, who are responsible for conducting elections in our state, are also responsible for ensuring that vital recorded documents, such as deeds and mortgages, are kept and preserved.

House Bill 2033 is a technical improvement bill that clarifies the method of collecting unpaid real property taxes in cases where the recorded deed transfers title to the government but is recorded without a certificate issued by the county assessor attesting that all real property taxes have been paid.

Specifically, the bill amends state law to clarify that the lack of a certificate does not reinstate any tax lien on the real property sold to the government, but instead continues to constitute a personal debt of the person selling the property to the government, and may be collected in the same fashion as personal property taxes, as provided in the same statute for insufficient taxes paid.

Please join OACC in supporting House Bill 2033.