

**COURTNEY NERON MISSLIN**  
**STATE SENATOR**  
**DISTRICT 13**



**OREGON STATE SENATE**  
**Testimony in Support of SB 1590**

February 3, 2026

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and Members of the Senate Natural Resources and Wildfire Committee,

I write in strong support of SB 1590, a bill that prohibits Oregon public bodies from spending resources to assist with selling off or transferring federal public lands to private interests.

I'm here, in part, because we have federal lands in the heart of Senate District 13 that we consider a treasure. Our Tualatin River Wildlife Refuge managed by US Fish and Wildlife is home to beavers, eagles, herons, ducks, and is a valuable stopover for tens of thousands of migratory birds.

The Refuge generates local revenue when visitors come to the area, and is truly a source of pride. We are so proud of the forests, wetlands, meadows, oak trees, grassland, that make up this nationally owned property. I believe it is incumbent upon the state to ensure that Oregon and our public bodies do all we can to protect our treasures and this bill is one layer of protection that our public resources are not expended in an effort to privatize this public good.

Thankfully, the local governments around the Refuge understand the importance of this public land. It is my connection to this place, and the fact that so many of our public lands across the state mean something similar to constituents of other areas, that I strongly support this bill.

Once public land is sold, that decision cannot be undone. SB 1590 takes a measured approach. It does not interfere with federal authority. Instead, it focuses narrowly on the role of public bodies in Oregon. Taking this step now helps provide clarity and avoid conflict later.

I urge your support for SB 1590. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Senator Courtney Neron Misslin