

Submitter: Leland Nesbit

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1590

To: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
SUBJECT: Support SB 1590

Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair McDonald, and members of the committee,

My name is Leland Nesbit and I live in Eugene, Oregon. I am a hunter, angler, forager and recreator of the beautiful public lands in Oregon. I am writing to you in strong support of SB 1590.

Oregon's vast public lands provide access and opportunities for hunters, anglers, and other outdoor enthusiasts across the state. Yet our public lands are facing increasing threats of privatization, which also threaten our freedom to hunt, fish, and enjoy the wild places that belong to all of us.

SB 1590 would help protect our public lands and the freedoms we hold dear by prohibiting Oregon's public bodies from using state or local resources to assist the federal government in selling certain federal public lands in Oregon to private parties.

The bill would apply only to applicable properties managed by the Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, or the National Park Service, and it includes common sense provisions to allow for continued collaboration on natural resource and wildlife management.

Having lived my entire life in Oregon, I have had the privilege of experiencing what our public lands have to offer. As a young child, my family and I would explore Oregon's coast and coast range; foraging for mushrooms and huckleberries, mussels and clams. It was on public land that I heard elk bugle for the first time, it is where I've seen coyotes run along the beach and river otters swim in our coastal tributaries.

As an adult, I've spent weeks cross country skiing, mountain biking, climbing, backpacking, fly fishing and hunting on public lands. It is where friends and I have created lifelong memories and bonds. As a hunter, angler and forager, it is because of these public lands that I am able to feed my family, my community and myself.

If these lands were privatized we would lose the places where we find a sense of belonging in Oregon's landscape. Once that access is gone, it's nearly impossible to

restore.

SB 1590 will help safeguard public lands against the threat of privatization, and ensure access and opportunity for Oregon hunters and anglers and outdoor enthusiasts for generations to come. I urge your support of SB 1590.

Sincerely,

Leland Nesbit
Eugene, Oregon