From: Davidson Ian
To: Trant Lindsay
Subject: FW: HJM 13 Transfer title of certain federal public lands to State of Oregon
Date: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 4:08:55 PM

From: Vivian Pilger [mailto:vivkirk@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 3:56 PM
To: Davidson Ian
Cc: Rep Wilson
Subject: HJM 13 Transfer title of certain federal public lands to State of Oregon

Dear Committee Members/Legislators:

Please support HJM Memorial 13. Then, please do everything you can to raise this state out of poverty by supporting this in the form of a bill to go to the United States Congress.

WE can do more controlling our own future than the Federal Government can.

Thank you,

Vivian Kirkpatrick-Pilger
180 Smokey Lane
Grants Pass, OR 97527

78th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY--2015 Regular Session

House Joint Memorial 13

Sponsored by Representative WILSON

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced.**

Urges President and Congress to transfer title of certain federal public lands to State of Oregon.

JOINT MEMORIAL

To the President of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas more than 32 million acres, constituting 52.3 percent, of the land base in Oregon is owned by the federal government; and

Whereas Oregon has 13 national forests covering more than 14 million acres, or nearly onequarter of this state's land mass; and

Whereas Oregon also has the federally revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands, covering 2.4 million acres across 18 counties in a checkerboard array with private lands; and

Whereas Oregon has 15.7 million acres managed by nine federal Bureau of Land Management districts, over a variety of landscapes, including grasslands, shrublands, woodlands, wetlands and nonforested deserts; and

Whereas the State of Oregon manages the same variety of landscapes on state lands; and

Whereas congressional budget reductions have significantly diminished the capacity of federal land management agencies to fulfill their responsibilities; and

Whereas federal nonmanagement of federal lands has stopped progress on the overlapping values of economic growth, social good and healthy ecosystems and has created catastrophic fire conditions on these lands; and

Whereas 40 percent of Oregon forestland is at high risk for a catastrophic fire; and

Whereas in 2013, the State of Oregon had to pay an extra $40 million for fire suppression; and

Whereas the State of Oregon is pursuing the strategy of collaborative processes and state investments to increase the pace and scale of federal forest treatment, but the state's present pace is at least two-thirds too slow to address treatment needs long-term; and

Whereas in Oregon, state forest management has resulted in more than $46 million annually in revenue to forest trust land counties from managing merely three percent of the forestland base; and

Whereas management of private forestlands under the Oregon Forest Practices Act has resulted in a sustainably harvested range of 2.5 billion board feet to 3.5 billion board feet annually from 34

percent of the forest landscape, in contrast to the 400 million board feet harvested from 60 percent of the federal forestlands; and

Whereas as a direct result of nonmanagement of federal lands, unemployment rates in federal-

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

land-dominated counties have consistently been the highest in this state, including unemployment rates of 11.6 percent in Harney County, 10.7 percent in Crook County, 10.2 percent in Curry County and 10.1 percent in Douglas County; and

Whereas nearly one in five people lives in poverty in Oregon's noncoastal counties; and

Whereas the American County Platform of the National Association of Counties states that "every state should receive everything that was promised to them in their enabling acts, including land transfers, if requested by an individual state with consultation with the affected counties"; and

Whereas other western states with large amounts of federal land ownership are considering or have begun a study of the legal, economic, social and practical benefits and risks associated with the transfer of federal lands to the states; and

Whereas a potential transfer of federal lands to the State of Oregon should not include any national parks, lands designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System under the Wilderness Act of 1964, lands belonging to an Indian tribe that are held in trust by the United States, lands affirmatively ceded to the United States by state statute and national monuments; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Seventy-eighth Legislative Assembly, urge the President and the Congress of the United States of America to transfer title to all federal public lands within Oregon's borders, except national parks, lands designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System under the Wilderness Act of 1964, lands belonging to an Indian tribe that are held in trust by the United States, lands affirmatively ceded to the United States by state statute and national monuments directly to the State of Oregon; and be it further

Resolved, That we strongly urge the members of the Oregon Congressional Delegation to do all in their power to secure the passage of legislation that transfers these public lands directly to the State of Oregon; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the United States Secretary of the Interior, to the United States Secretary of Agriculture, to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation and to the Governors and the presiding officers of the legislatures of the 49 other states.

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