



Oregon Secretary of State's Office Testimony on SB 803

The Secretary of State's office supports the policy in SB 803 and thanks Senator Hansell for bringing it forward. SB 803 is a balanced and creative approach to raising state revenue without new taxes. Since the state seal was created by the State of Oregon, it makes sense to require some level of revenue sharing for profits generated from use of state seal on a product for sale. Similar licensing programs exist in other states, including [Washington](#) and [Texas](#).

After discussions with the Department of Justice over the last few days, we believe they have important thoughts for the committee to consider related to possible legal impacts, which must be weighed along with the potential for increased revenue.

If the committee chooses to move forward with this bill, we recommend that the committee consider amending the bill in several respects:

1. The committee may want to clarify that licenses are to use *a reproduction* of the seal of the State of Oregon.
2. The committee may want to prohibit use of the state seal on goods, wares and merchandise intended for sale *unless* the person is licensed to do so. An optional license is unlikely to be used.

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