

Watts Remy

From: Patrino Beth
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2019 9:04 AM
To: Watts Remy; SENR Exhibits
Subject: FW: HB2225 - Opposition Letter

Please post email below from Rick Lawler as testimony for the PH on HB 2225.

Thanks!

From: Rick Lawler <RickLawler@msn.com>
Sent: Sunday, May 5, 2019 8:46 AM
To: Sen.MichaelDembrow@state.or.us
Subject: HB2225 - Opposition Letter

Senator Dembrow,

My name is Rick Lawler, and you represent my family in NE Portland.

I am writing this letter to share with you my profound concern and opposition to HB225 as it currently was written. I understand that this bill is scheduled for a vote during this week.

My family owns property in the Cottage Grove area (Lane County) since 1970, with which we have managed in order to create an excellent quality of life during my childhood, and to provide a legacy to our children and grandchildren. While working under the existing Oregon and County guidelines, 5 years ago our family began a project of logging and property line adjustment. In this effort, we have managed the timber resources including replanting and weed abatement, constructed an access road and realigned and upgraded the access connection to the existing county road. Again, all of these activities have been done in accordance with existing codes and regulations. We are currently *in the process* of executing a property line adjustment within the property – again, following existing processes.

Specific Points of Concern:

1. HB2225 in its current form will effectively make all of this work and our legacy plans worthless. Specifically, lines 28-32 is retroactive and will preclude any property line adjustment that has not been approved by *January 1, 2019*. As mentioned, we are in this process but not yet with an approval.

2. Section 2, Lines 2 – 18, which stipulates the effective dates. There is a basic unfairness of the implementation among Oregon Counties with only 4 counties (including Lane) scheduled for immediate (i.e., retroactive January 1, 2019) effect, with the remainder having either a 2 or 4-year delay. Quite frankly, this uneven treatment between counties is unfair and smacks of backroom politics and special interests.

3. The HB225 Overview states that this bill will have “No Fiscal Impact”. As I have outlined above, our family has dedicated significant resources of time and money in the stewardship of our property with the intention of creating a generational legacy. The retroactive nature of this legislation would, in effect, make all of our efforts account to nothing.

In summary, I hope that you will take into consideration the very real negative financial and emotional the impact that HB225 will have on my family and many other families throughout Oregon. I ask, at minimum, that the effective date of January 1, 2019, for certain counties (including Lane County) be reconsidered and that all counties are granted at least a 2-year grace period.

Respectfully,

Rick Lawler

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