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WRITTEN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 252

Dear Chair Burdick, Vice-Chair Boquist, and Senators Findley, Riley, and Wagner,

- The Oregon Association of County Clerks asks for your support of Senate Bill 252.
- Recording fees for a one-page document consist of the following fees:
 - \$5.00 for recording the document.
 - \$11.00 for Assessment and Taxation and Oregon Land Information Systems.
 - \$5.00 for Public Land Corner Preservation.
 - \$60.00 for the housing alliance tax.

NOTE: the Public Land Corner Preservation fee varies among counties, and some counties also charge an additional local fee for technology expenses by Ordinance
- Here is a fairly common scenario:
 - A couple purchases home - they pay all of the above fees when they record the Deed.
 - The couple takes out a loan to purchase the home, so they pay the above fees to record the mortgage or trust deed documents.
 - The Mortgage gets sold to another company, so the couple pays the above fees to record the assignment.
 - The couple eventually pay off the loan on their home, so they pay the above fees to record the necessary documents to show satisfaction of the loan.
 - One of them passes away. So now the Certified Death Certificate needs to be recorded, again paying the above recording fees - yet again - at the most difficult part of their life. Sometimes, widows or widowers actually forego recording, due to cost while standing at our counters in tears.
- Let's provide a little logical relief here and exempt the recording of death certificates from the \$60.00 housing fee.
- Please support Senate Bill 252.