



**Testimony in Support of SB 728
to the Senate Committee on
Judiciary and Ballot 110 Implementation**

February 25, 2021

Senator Prozanski and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testify in support of Senate Bill 728. The mission of the Oregon State Bar is to serve the public interest by regulating the legal profession, improving the quality of legal services, and advancing a fair, inclusive, and accessible justice system.

Since 2013 the Oregon Law Commission's Probate Modernization Workgroup has reviewed Oregon's probate code with the intent to identify and update ambiguous or out-of-date language and processes. This session, SB 728 corrects ambiguous language, modernizes notice provisions, and clarifies the role and responsibilities of the personal representative and the role of the probate courts among many other changes.

The Probate Modernization Workgroup is made up of attorneys, judges, representatives from the Oregon Department of Justice, the Oregon Department of Human Services, bankers, and trust company representatives among others. Throughout the process, representatives from the Oregon State Bar's Elder Law and Estate Planning and Administration Sections have been actively involved in the process as well. These stakeholders have systematically tackled a dense and daunting project and made lasting and positive changes to Oregon's probate code.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Oregon State Bar