Testimony in Support of SB 812 Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire 1/30/2025

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Tristan Henry, and I serve as the Oregon Field Representative for the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, an organization dedicated to ensuring all Oregonians have quality places to hunt and fish. I write today to express strong support for SB 812, which would make the landowner preference program permanent by repealing its scheduled sunset clause.

The landowner preference program plays a critical role in balancing wildlife conservation, hunting access, and landowner interests. By providing qualifying landowners with controlled hunt tags, the program incentivizes responsible habitat management and fosters positive relationships between landowners, hunters, and wildlife managers. This collaborative approach has helped sustain Oregon's rural economies while maintaining healthy big game populations.

Ensuring the long-term viability of this program is essential to preserving these benefits. Making the program permanent will provide certainty for landowners who invest in wildlife habitat and allow the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to continue leveraging this tool to achieve sound wildlife management objectives.

I urge the committee to support SB 812 and uphold this successful institution.

Thank you for your consideration.



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