

Submitter: Sharon Waterman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2301

As a Oregon Century Ranch operation, I encourage your passage of HB 2301 which allows an additional estate tax exclusion of \$7 million. Three generations of family have worked hard and the 4th has taken over our family ranch operation. We are faced with increased development of land by non-Oregonians in our area and this estate tax increase will make it easier for the next generation to keep the ranch in the family. The cost of land and equipment for farming and ranching has taken dramatic increases over the years and with Oregon's continuing climate policy that equipment will be more expensive. The State of Oregon has "taken" part of our timber land via the Private Forest Accord. So, at least do something for the next generation so they can keep our ranch and timber lands in the family and make a living on the land instead of having to sell to developers. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue to every family owned businesses in Oregon.