

COLUMBIA COUNTY



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February 5, 2025

Representative Thuy Tran, Chair
House Committee on Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Tran and Members of the Committee,

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners supports HB 3175 to update the Public Land Corner Preservation (PLCP) Program. This bill removes the cap on document recording fees, allowing counties to set fees based on local needs.


While fees have been capped at \$10 per document recorded for nearly 40 years, and inflation has reduced the PLCP Fund's value by 70%. County surveyors struggle to maintain property markers, which are essential for land ownership, development, and emergency response. Keeping property markers in place:


- Prevents boundary disputes;
- Supports housing development;
- Improves mapping for 911 and wildfire response.


These markers are often lost due to weather, construction, and human activity. Without them, property lines become unclear, leading to legal and planning issues.

HB 3175 will ensure counties have the resources to protect property rights and public safety. We strongly urge your support.

Respectfully,
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON


Kellie Jo Smith, Chair


Casey Garrett, Commissioner


Margaret Magruder, Commissioner