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March 31, 2025

Senator Chris Gorsek, Co-Chair Representative Susan McLain, Co-Chair Joint Committee on Transportation Oregon State Legislature

RE: Support for HB 3209 – Adjusting RV Registration Fees & Strengthening Funding for Parks & Recreation

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Vice-Chairs Starr and Boshart Davis, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District (THPRD), we write to express our support for HB 3209. This legislation addresses long-overdue adjustments to RV registration fees and establishes a dedicated funding source for the removal of abandoned recreational vehicles. While both provisions are important for Oregon's park system and the broader recreation community, THPRD is particularly focused on the adjusted registration fee component.

Increasing RV registration fees is a much-needed step toward ensuring sustainable funding for Oregon's county and state parks. These fees have remained unchanged for over two decades, despite rising maintenance costs and the growing demand for quality outdoor recreation spaces. By adjusting fees to reflect inflation and indexing them for future increases, HB 3209 provides a reliable revenue stream that will help sustain and enhance the parks that serve both residents and visitors. This increased funding benefits all of us—by supporting our colleagues at county and state parks, we strengthen the entire ecosystem of public recreation spaces across the state.

Even though THPRD will not benefit directly from the adjusted fees because the funds are allocated to county and state parks, HB 3209 alleviates financial strain at the local level, freeing up resources for critical programs such as the Local Government Grant Program (LGGP). Expanding the funding available for LGGP grows the overall pool of financial support, ensuring that cities and park districts like THPRD can continue developing and improving recreational facilities that benefit our communities.

THPRD believes in collaborative solutions that strengthen Oregon's entire parks and recreation network. HB 3209 does just that and we urge you to support this bill and invest in the future of Oregon's outdoor spaces. Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Barbie Minor, President/ THPRD Board of Directors