



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN
ELK FOUNDATION**

April 21, 2025

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water

Subject: SB 812 - Removal of Sunset Clause from the Landowner Preference Program (LOP) Statute

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice Chair McDonald and Members of the Committee

My name is David Wiley. I live in Sublimity, Oregon. I am a Lead Volunteer within the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF). I am speaking on behalf of the Elk Foundation.

The RMEF is a national non-profit hunter sponsored conservation organization whose mission is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and our hunting heritage. RMEF has more than 200,000 members nationwide and more than 12,000 in Oregon. Since 1986 within Oregon, RMEF and its partners have completed more than 1,100 wildlife habitat stewardship, management and hunting heritage projects. These projects conserved and enhanced more than 890,000 acres and improved recreational access to 157,000 acres.

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation strongly supports SB 812 and recommends it to become law.

The Landowner Preference Program is now fully mature. It has been in effect for more than 30 years during that time it has been adjusted a few times, but not recently. Landowners and hunters have both had their issues considered and come to an agreement, most recently in 2013. RMEF has been involved throughout the LOP's history. The LOP Program is now well established. Continued inclusion of a sunset date in the statute is no longer needed.

RMEF recommends passage of SB 812 out of committee with a Do Pass recommendation.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak before the Committee.

David Wiley, Lead Volunteer
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

