

Submitter: Laurie McCord
On Behalf Of: SELF
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB485

Laurie McCord
86 North Ave. NE
Bandon, OR 97411
lauriemccord44@gmail.com
208-991-7340
June 2, 2025

Oregon State Senate
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Honorable Members of the Oregon Senate,
My name is Laurie McCord, and I reside in Coos County in the town of Bandon, Oregon, with my family. As long term Oregonians, we are deeply invested in our State's well-being and the responsible stewardship of the land we call home including our forest properties and ranches. Managing the estates of loved ones is a duty that many families take on with care, but it often comes with legal complexities and administrative burdens. Senate Bill 485 (SB485) offers necessary clarification and simplification for heirs working through estate processes, and it will reduce unnecessary barriers during already difficult times of forest property management. I am writing to express my strong support for SB485. So, please vote—YES. This legislation will make a meaningful difference for families like mine. My sister, Kate McMichael, and her wife, Theresa Hauser, are working to gift their Elk Ridge Tree Farm property—39 acres of forested land in Vida, Lane County—to the next generation. This land was severely affected by wildfire, and their intent to pass it on through gifting reflects a desire to preserve, restore, and responsibly manage what remains. SB485 will remove current obstacles that complicate such well-meaning transfers, especially for heirs handling their post-disaster properties and long-term land stewardship.

In closing, I urge you to pass SB485. This bill represents practical, compassionate progress in Oregon's estate and property laws. It will help families navigate legal processes more efficiently, honor the wishes of property owners, and support thoughtful land management across our beautiful State of Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Laurie McCord
86 North Ave. NE
Bandon, OR 97411
lauriemccord44@gmail.com

208-991-7340