

Submitter: Nancy Hathaway
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB485
Subject: Please support SB 485 A

Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the committee:

I am Nancy Hathaway of Corvallis. My family owns and manages about 900 acres of varying ages of timberland in 5 counties in Oregon. Given to us by my parents years ago, I have been stewarding these properties for decades. My husband and I have dealt with ice storm damage, invasive species, failing culverts, etc. over the years. Currently we are combatting the evil Scotch broom! Working so many days over the years develops an attachment and love of the land. Our neighbors love and use our properties daily.

I would like to pass on this property to my son and grandson without punishing them with high taxes. They already look upon it as "their" land, but it won't be if they have to sell to pay high estate taxes. I realize I can't continue my current level of engagement forever.

Spending 75% of my days working on the properties has been my usual go-to, but it's ridiculous to think that I (and others caught in this conundrum) can keep this up as we age. Our heirs are young enough that they are actively employed elsewhere.

So, even though I appreciate the idea behind the first iteration of SB 485, it has been frustrating and potentially impossible for me to implement it. I'd like to think that my work and devotion to my forests would be recognized. SB 485 A will accomplish this.

Please vote yes for SB 485 A and thank you for devoting time and attention to this needed improvement.