



From the Offices of Representatives Chotzen, Levy and Senator Broadman

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Bill Blocking State Cooperation with Federal Land Privatization Clears Legislature

SALEM, Ore. – Today, the Oregon House passed [SB 1590](#), a bill which prohibits state and local governments from cooperating with any federal attempt to sell or transfer ownership of national parks, monuments, or other federal public lands within Oregon. Approximately 53 percent of Oregon’s land is federally owned, making the state uniquely impacted by federal land policy decisions.

Rep. Chotzen (D - Outer SE Portland) emphasized the need to protect Oregon’s natural beauty from federal overreach: “Amidst growing federal overreach, it’s critical we fight to protect our public lands the same way we’re fighting to protect our Civil Rights — by ensuring what makes Oregon special is accessible to everyone, not reserved only for the wealthiest. Oregon’s natural beauty is one of our greatest assets, and SB 1590 will prevent our lands from being auctioned off.”

"This is a proactive piece of legislation, striking a thoughtful balance to ensure the government has the tools to safeguard our sacred places," said **Sen. Broadman** (D-Bend). "Our public lands are the greatest inheritance we can leave our children."

The legislation specifies that its restrictions do not apply to Tribal governments, recognizing Tribes as the original stewards of Oregon’s lands and preserving their sovereign authority.

“Our public lands shape our culture, sustain our wildlife, and power a recreation economy that supports small businesses across our region. Protecting these lands also protects our water, our wildlife habitat, and our resilience against wildfire and drought,” said **Rep. Levy** (D - Bend, South Redmond, Tumalo & Sisters). “Thoughtful land management addresses long-standing

challenges and ensures stability so we can make deliberate, transparent decisions about our shared lands.”

The bill is part of a broader effort to assert state priorities in response to federal land management decisions that could affect access, conservation, recreation, and local economies tied to public lands.

SB 1590 now moves to the Senate for consideration.

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