

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION

12-3-14-13

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED
O&C TRUST, CONSERVATION AND JOBS
ACT

The Board of Commissioners for Lane County, Oregon, respectfully represents and resolves as follows:

WHEREAS the unique, revested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands, commonly known as O&C lands, once provided revenues vital to the economic survival of many county governments in Oregon, including Lane County; and

WHEREAS failures in federal management of the O&C lands has resulted in a drastic decline in revenue from those lands, leaving many of the 18 O&C counties, including Lane County, without adequate revenues to provide essential public services, including the protection of public safety; and

WHEREAS federal management of the O&C lands has reduced timber harvests by 90 percent over the last 20 years, depriving communities and industries of the raw material necessary to sustain local economies, provide employment opportunities and fund stewardship and restoration efforts; and

WHEREAS three members of Oregon's Congressional Delegation have proposed a bipartisan plan for management of about 50 percent of the O&C lands by an Oregon trust, under the laws of the State of Oregon, for sustained yield timber production for the benefit of the O&C counties and all Oregonians; and

WHEREAS, Representatives DeFazio, Walden and Schrader have offered the O&C Trust, Conservation and Jobs Act, which would result in restoration of revenues to counties sufficient to avert the financial crisis with which they are confronted, and allow the counties to continue to function with public safety and other essential services at acceptable levels; and

WHEREAS, the proposed O&C Trust, Conservation and Jobs Act would assure a sufficiently stable timber supply to justify investments in new plants and equipment, and provide raw material supporting manufacturing and other jobs, creating thousands

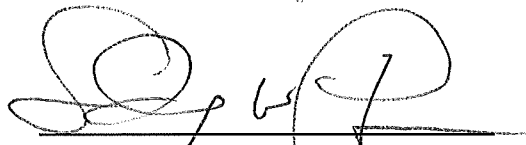
new jobs in parts of Oregon, including Lane County, where high unemployment rates are a chronic problem; and

WHEREAS, the propose O&C Trust, Conservation and Jobs Act, in addition to helping revive an ailing economy, would assure that the timber and other resources are conserved for the benefit of current and future generations by requiring sustained yield forestry, and by permanently protecting all remaining old growth timber on more than 1.0 million acres of the O&C lands, adding 90,000 acres to wilderness protection, and adding 150 miles of streams to wild and scenic protected status; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR LANE COUNTY IN THE STATE OF OREGON: that we urge the President and the Congress of the United States of America to, as rapidly as the legislative process will permit and without delay, enact into law the O&C Trust, Conservation and Jobs Act, as sponsored by Congressmen Walden, DeFazio and Schrader; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the President of the United States, to the United States House of Representatives and Senate, to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation, and to the Governor of the State of Oregon.

Adopted this 14th day of March, 2012



Sid Leiken, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Date 3-12-12 Lane County



OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL