



Department of Land Conservation and Development

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Senate approves Melissa Cribbins' appointment to Oregon's Land Conservation and Development Commission

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Salem, OR – The Oregon Senate approved Governor Kitzhaber's appointment of Melissa Cribbins to represent the coast on the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC).

Cribbins will replace Tim Jossi, who served on the commission since 2004, until completion of his second term at the end of June 2013. Cribbins' four year term begins June 1, 2014, and she will join the commission's July 24-25, 2014, meeting in Ontario.

The LCDC consists of seven members, representative of certain regions of the state along with a current or former elected official of a city and a county (Cribbins is currently serving in her first term on the Coos County Board of Commissioners). LCDC adopts state land-use goals, assures local plan compliance with the goals, coordinates state and local planning and manages the coastal zone program. The commissioners are unpaid citizen volunteers appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Commissioner appointments are four-year terms and may not serve for more than two full terms.

Cribbins was raised in Coos County, graduating from Coquille High School before receiving her bachelors of science in biology and biochemistry from Portland State University. Cribbins then worked in the field of drinking water treatment, including several years at the City of Spokane as its water quality manager. She graduated *cum laude* from the Gonzaga University Law School. After clerking for the Douglas County Circuit Court, Cribbins returned home to Coos County and spent the next five years working as an attorney for the Coquille Indian Tribe. Cribbins was elected to the Coos County Board of Commissioners in 2012.

Explaining her interest in serving on the commission, Cribbins says "Rural Oregon is blessed with so many natural opportunities – timber, fishing, water, natural resources – and good, hardworking people. These resources are the key to our future. We must use them, but use them wisely and carefully, preserving what is special about our place in the world and our way of life. Effective land use planning is one way to do so."

DLCD's Director, Jim Rue said, "We are delighted to have someone with Ms. Cribbins' expertise on the commission. Her background and experience allow her to represent not only the land use issues along the coast, but all of Oregon."

Individuals interested in appointments to Oregon's boards or commissions are encouraged to complete and submit an [interest form](#).

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