## **CERTAINTY FOR COUNTIES**

To uphold our commitment to rural and federally forested communities in western Oregon

## Highlights:

- Provides forested counties in western Oregon with a sustainable and more predictable level of revenues in perpetuity to support basic county government services like law enforcement, education, health, and transportation.

- **Turns around nearly two decades of gridlock on federal forests** that will help timberdependent counties in western Oregon improve their economic and financial outlooks.

- Estimated to create thousands of new jobs in rural communities throughout Oregon and will reduce unacceptably high unemployment levels in the State. (*Oregon Forest Resources Institute, 2011*)

- Moves counties away from an uncertain future of federal payments to a long-term solution that meets the federal government's obligation to federally forested communities while bringing jobs back to our communities and health back to our federal forests.

- Ensures legal certainty by establishing a fiduciary trust for the O&C Counties and ensures strong O&C county representation on the Board of Trustees to guarantee the Board's fiduciary obligation to the 18 O&C Counties.

- Sets a fair standard for the federal government by requiring the Board of Trustees to provide a return from the O&C Trust lands to the American taxpayer and U.S. Treasury.

- Establishes a temporary federal loan to aid O&C Counties during transition to payments from the O&C Trust.