

Oregon Law Commission Work Plan

Rev. Date: 10/31/2025

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Statutory Authority

ORS 173.315 (1) “The Oregon Law Commission is established to conduct a continuous substantive law revision program as described in ORS 173.338 (Law revision program).”

ORS 173.338 “The law revision program conducted by the Oregon Law Commission may include, but is not limited to:

- (a) Review of the common law and statutes of the state, and current judicial decisions, for the purpose of discovering defects and anachronisms in the law.
- (b) Consideration of changes in the law recommended by the American Law Institute, the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, any bar association or other learned bodies.
- (c) Consideration of suggestions from judges, justices, public officials, lawyers and the public generally as to defects and anachronisms in the law.
- pipe(d) Recommendation for changes in the law that the commission considers necessary to modify or eliminate antiquated and inequitable rules of law and to bring the law of Oregon into harmony with modern conditions.
- (e) Recommendation for the express repeal of statutes repealed by implication or held unconstitutional by state and federal courts.

(2) The commission shall study any topic that the Legislative Assembly, by law or concurrent resolution, refers to the commission. [1997 c.661 §3; 2009 c.114 §6]”

FY 2026 Goal Setting (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-based)

Topic		Success Looks Like
1. Law Improvement (ORS 173.338 (a), (b))		Become the pre-eminent law improvement vehicle in Oregon
a. Completion of major existing law improvement projects		
b. Review approved law improvement projects		Electronic Wills, LLC Act, Corporations Act
c. Develop pipeline of law improvement projects		Partition of Heirs Property, Municipal and Justice Court V2.0. Estate Planning and Administration/SB 15, Collateral Consequences of Conviction, Juvenile Law
2. Policy Questions (ORS 173.338 (c), (d))		Become a multi-disciplinary forum for thought leadership in Oregon
a. Educate judges, justices, public officials, lawyers, and public on role of OLC		Continue updates of the OLC Website; outreach to legislators; submit biennial report
b. Develop policy analysis model building on OLC process		Continue to build policy panels to create a bench of knowledge in different practice areas
c. Solicit policy questions		Meet with alumni members, practitioners, and stakeholders
3. Entity Governance:		Restore mechanisms for effective governance and be effective stewards of the Oregon Law Commission
a. Staff development		Hire 1-2 summer clerks; hire 1 law clerk/fellow part-time during academic year; hire post-graduate legal fellow to assist with workgroups
b. Board development		Continue to leverage existing and former Commissioner expertise; Refine Program Committee needs and role, and create Administration Subcommittee
c. Financial Accountability		Develop effective financial statements; discuss financial statements at Commission meetings; board review and approval of budget proposals and support for OJD budget process
d. UO Partnership		Outreach to UO Law School administration, faculty, and students to increase understanding of OLC and

		opportunities to collaborate on workgroups and student engagement
e. Develop a 5-year plan for the OLC		Identify stakeholders; consider statutory expectations

2026 – Q1 and 2 (July 1 – December 31, 2025) Goal Setting (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-based)

Important Dates in Q 1 and 2:

Meeting Dates:	Commission Meeting Dates: Friday, August 8, 2025 Friday, November 21, 2025 Program Committee Meeting Dates: Friday, July 25, 2025 December 2025
Goal Check in Dates:	☐ August 1, 2025 ☐ October 1, 2025 ☐ December 1, 2025
Other Important Dates (including planned PTO):	Important Dates: Classes begin (8/25), Last Day of Classes (12/4), reading Period and Exams (12/5 – 12/18) Holidays: Labor Day (9/1), Veterans Day (11/11), Thanksgiving (11/27 and 11/28), Christmas (12/25), New Years Eve (12/31) Amy Zubko PTO: (8/14 – 8/21), (approx. 9/19– 9/24), (11/24 – 11/26), (12/22 – 12/31)

Q 1 and 2 Goals

1. Q1 and 2 Law Improvement Goals:		Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Outreach to potential workgroup members. Consider Proposal at Program Committee meeting and full Commission meeting RULLCA Workgroup: Coalition outreach Electronic Wills: Monthly meetings Partition of Heirs Property: Outreach to workgroup members for Partition of Heirs Property. Consider proposal at 8/8/2025 meeting
2. Q1 and 2 Policy Improvement Goals:		Work with estate planning bar to identify proposals. Review and create overview of criminal and juvenile efforts by OLC.
3. Q1 and 2 Governance Goals		Post Administrative Role and Post-grad role. Continue to update website. Develop Administrative Subcommittee

Q1 and 2 Law Improvement Goals

In July and August, we will:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Consider Proposal at Program Committee meeting. Consider the Workgroup proposal at the 8/8/2025 meeting. – Done. • RULLCA Workgroup: Outreach with Secretary of State and other practitioners. – Done. • Partition of Heirs Property: Consider the Workgroup proposal at the 8/8/2025 meeting. – Done. • eWills: Prep for August Meeting. – Done.
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Program Committee decides not to forward proposal to full Commission for consideration. • RULLCA Workgroup: Summer vacation schedules • Partition of Heirs Property: Commission decides not to move forward. • eWills: AZ travel
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Share proposal with stakeholders. • RULLCA Workgroup: Schedule early • Partition of Heirs Property: Outreach in July • eWills: Work with summer research staff to create materials for meetings.
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: A Commissioner to chair the workgroup • RULLCA Workgroup: Working with summer schedules. • Partition of Heirs Property: Workgroup members identified.

	• eWills: Materials for August workgroup meeting.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Proposal is included on full Commission agenda. • RULLCA Workgroup: Scheduled meetings with stakeholders. • Partition of Heirs Property: We can schedule the first meeting. • eWills: Materials go out prior to AZ travel.

In September and October, we will:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Schedule our first meeting. – Done. • RULLCA Workgroup: Continue outreach. – Done. • Partition of Heirs Property: Hold our first meeting, schedule future meetings, continue outreach to fill in holes on committee. – Done. • eWills: Materials for workgroup meeting. – Done.
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: The workgroup is not approved, the workgroup does not have a Commissioner • RULLCA Workgroup: Working with Commissioner schedules • Partition of Heirs Property: Conflicting schedules, workgroup membership • eWills: Scheduling
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Early outreach for a Commissioner to chair • RULLCA Workgroup: Schedule early • Partition of Heirs Property: Early outreach

	• eWills: Work with chairs and LC to get the materials organized
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: A Commissioner to chair the workgroup. • RULLCA Workgroup: Time in folks schedules • Partition of Heirs Property: Time for outreach • eWills: Materials for workgroup meeting.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: A Commissioner to chair the workgroup • RULLCA Workgroup: We've met with legislators and stakeholders. • Partition of Heirs Property: Workgroup members identified. • eWills: Feedback from reporter, chair, LC, and members.
In November and December, I will:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Schedule monthly meetings (with a break for the holidays). – Done. • RULLCA Workgroup: Explore 2026 or 2027 introduction. – Done. • Partition of Heirs Property: Schedule monthly meetings (with a break for the holidays). – Done. • eWills: Schedule monthly meetings (with a break for the holidays). - Done.
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Complicated scheduling with the holidays. • RULLCA Workgroup: 2026 Session is not the best fit for this proposal. • Partition of Heirs Property: Complicated scheduling with the holidays.

	• eWills: Complicated scheduling with the holidays.
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Discuss holiday scheduling in early fall. • RULLCA Workgroup: Outreach and coalition building. • Partition of Heirs Property: Discuss holiday scheduling in early fall. • eWills: Discuss holiday scheduling in early fall.
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Sufficient time for staff to prep materials. • RULLCA Workgroup: Sufficient time for staff to prep materials. • Partition of Heirs Property: Sufficient time for staff to prep materials. • eWills: Sufficient time for staff to prep materials.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup: Meetings held in November or December • RULLCA Workgroup: LLC Act is introduced for 2026 session. LLC Act will be a 2027 bill. • Partition of Heirs Property: Meetings held in November or December • eWills: Meetings held in November or December

Q1 and 2 Policy Goals

In July and August, we will:	December Program Committee Preparation • Estate Planning: Outreach to estate planning practitioners and legislators. Have summer staff prep background materials. Review and create overview of probate efforts by OLC. – Done.
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	• Criminal/Juvenile: Outreach to criminal practitioners and legislators. Have summer staff prep background materials. Review and create overview of criminal and juvenile efforts by OLC. – Done.
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Estate Planning: Summer vacation schedules. • Criminal/Juvenile: Summer vacation schedules.
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Estate Planning: Outreach early (July). Work closely with summer staff. • Criminal/Juvenile: Outreach early (July). Work closely with summer staff.
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Estate Planning: Time to connect with folks, time to work with summer staff. • Criminal/Juvenile: Time to connect with folks, time to work with summer staff.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Estate Planning: We have enough feedback to begin drafting a proposal. • Criminal/Juvenile: We have enough feedback to begin drafting a proposal.
In September and October, we will:	• Estate Planning: Draft and finalize an estate planning proposal. – In Process. • Criminal/Juvenile: Draft and finalize a criminal/juvenile proposal. – On Hold.
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Estate Planning: Not enough outreach or background information. • Criminal/Juvenile: Not enough outreach or background information.
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Estate Planning: Outreach to estate planning practitioners and legislators. • Criminal/Juvenile: Outreach to criminal/juvenile practitioners and legislators.
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Estate Planning: Feedback from stakeholders.

	• Criminal/Juvenile: Feedback from stakeholders.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Estate Planning: Proposal shared with stakeholders in November. • Criminal/Juvenile: Proposal shared with stakeholders in November.
In November and December, I will:	• Estate Planning: Proposal finalized and posted for December Program Committee. • Criminal/Juvenile: Proposal finalized and posted for December Program Committee. – On hold.
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Estate Planning: Proposal not finalized. Lack of consensus. • Criminal/Juvenile: Proposal not finalized. Lack of consensus.
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Estate Planning: Communication. • Criminal/Juvenile: Communication.
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Estate Planning: Time and communication. • Criminal/Juvenile: Time and communication.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Estate Planning: Proposal is submitted to Program Committee. • Criminal/Juvenile: Proposal is submitted to Program Committee.

Q1 and 2 Governance Goals

In July and August, we will:	• Summer staff: Introduce research assistants to legislative process, legislative research, and include them in outreach efforts. – Done. • Legal Fellow: Submit Legal Fellow posting to UO. – Under consideration. Will be discussed by Administrative Subcommittee. • Portland UO/OLC Legal Fellow: Post for 2025 – 2026 school year. – Done. • Effective financial statements: Update OLC budgeting information with updated information from 2025 Legislative Session. – Done.
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What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Summer staff: Lack of communication, other time commitments, remote nature of job. • Legal Fellow: UO HR process • Portland UO/OLC: Lack of communication between Portland UO/OLC. • Effective financial statements: Budget disconnect between 2025 and 2026.
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Summer staff: Regularly scheduled meetings, deadlines, timely feedback. • Legal Fellow: Work with UO HR process. Submit proposal this summer. • Portland UO/OLC: Communication between Portland UO/OLC, schedule blocks for interviews. • Effective financial statements: Review 2025 and 2026 budgets.
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Summer staff: Time and bandwidth. • Legal Fellow: UO HR process outreach to career services at three Oregon law schools. • Portland UO/OLC: Communication between Portland UO/OLC. • Effective financial statements: Prep for updated budget information to be shared in September/October.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Summer staff: Students are able to complete projects in a timely basis, they have a basic understanding of the legislative process and roles in the legislature, They have connected with practitioners in their areas of interest. • Legal Fellow: Questions are answered. • Portland UO/OLC: We hire a fellow. • Effective financial statements: Comprehensive understanding of the 2025 budget and spending.

In September and October, we will:	• Summer staff: See Portland Fellow update below. • Legal Fellow: Work with UO HR to finalize position description. Under consideration. Will be discussed by Administrative Subcommittee. • Portland UO/OLC: Introduction of Fellow to legislative process, workgroups, and projects. Changing structure of UO Portland Program, maintained summer staff employment rather than Fellow. • Effective financial statements: Reconcile 2025 and 2026 budget. Done.
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Summer staff: Done for the year • Legal Fellow: UO HR process, outreach efforts are unsuccessful • Portland UO/OLC: Figuring out the fall schedule of the Fellow. • Effective financial statements: Budget disconnect between 2025 and 2026
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Summer staff: Done for the year. • Legal Fellow: Create an outreach schedule. Check in regularly with HR. • Portland UO/OLC: Check in with the UO fellow on a weekly basis. • Effective financial statements: Work with UO Accounting
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Summer staff: Done for the year. • Legal Fellow: UO HR process and time for outreach. • Portland UO/OLC: Projects for the Fellow • Effective financial statements: Updated budget information from UO Accounting.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Summer staff: Done for the year. • Legal Fellow: Identified areas to post.

	• Portland UO/OLC: Fellow is actively engaged with projects. • Effective financial statements: Budget disconnect addressed with updated information. State funding is submitted to UO on a timely basis.
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In November and December, I will:	• Summer staff: Done for the year. • Legal Fellow: Start outreach for the position. • Portland UO/OLC: Provide opportunities for projects but also track on school schedule. • Effective financial statements: Reconcile for November Commission meeting
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	• Summer staff: Done for the year. • Legal Fellow: UO HR process • Portland UO/OLC: School schedule. • Effective financial statements: Lack of time to reconcile budget information.
Things that we will do to plan for success:	• Summer staff: Done for the year. • Legal Fellow: Submit the proposal early in the summer. • Portland UO/OLC: Work with fellow to determine his/her schedule. • Effective financial statements: Reconcile budget for November OLC meeting.
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	• Summer staff: Done for the summer. • Legal Fellow: UO HR process • Portland UO/OLC: Time • Effective financial statements: UO Accounting monthly account information.
We will know we've met this goal if:	• Summer staff: Done for the summer • Legal Fellow: Posting is approved.

	• Portland UO/OLC: Fellow is actively engaged with workgroups. • Effective financial statements: Budgeting is on track.
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