

# Oregon Law Commission Work Plan

Rev. Date: February 17, 2026

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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.
- (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- (e) Recommendation for the express repeal of statutes repealed by implication or held unconstitutional by state and federal courts.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
<b>1. Law Improvement (ORS 173.338 (a), (b))</b>	<b>Become the pre-eminent law improvement vehicle in Oregon</b>
a. Completion of major existing law improvement projects	Uniform Electronic Wills Work Group, Revised Uniform Limited Liability Company Act Work Group, Municipal and Justice Courts 2025 – 2027 Work Group, Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Work Group
b. Review approved law improvement projects	Corporations Act, Simple Estate Affidavit criteria work group proposal
c. Develop pipeline of law improvement projects	Public Meetings, Landlord Tenant, Juvenile Law
<b>2. Policy Questions (ORS 173.338 (c), (d))</b>	<b>Become a multi-disciplinary forum for thought leadership in Oregon</b>
a. Educate judges, justices, public officials, lawyers, and public on role of OLC	Continue updates of the OLC Website, Outreach to legislators
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
<b>3. Entity Governance:</b>	<b>Restore mechanisms for effective governance and be effective stewards of the Oregon Law Commission</b>
a. Staff development	Hire 2-3 summer clerks.
b. Board development	Continue to leverage existing and former Commissioner expertise; Refine Program Committee needs and role, and work with Administration Subcommittee to update policies and procedures
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 – Q3 and 4 (January 1 – June 30, 2026) Goal Setting (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-based)

Important Dates in Q3 and 4:

Meeting Dates:	<b>Commission Meeting Dates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friday, March 13, 2026 at 10 am</li> <li>Friday, June 5, 2026 at 10 am</li> </ul> <b>Program Committee Meeting Dates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TBD</li> </ul>
Goal Check in Dates:	<input type="checkbox"/> February 1, 2026 <input type="checkbox"/> April 1, 2026 <input type="checkbox"/> June 1, 2026
Other Important Dates (including planned PTO):	<b>Important Dates:</b> 1/12 (classes begin), 02/3 – 3/7 (Legislative Session), 4/30 – 5/11 (finals) <b>Holidays:</b> 1/19 (MLK Jr. Day), 2/16 (Pres. Day), 5/25 (Mem. Day), 6/19 (Juneteenth) <b>Amy Zubko PTO:</b> 1/30, 2/13, 3/24 – 26, 4/20 – 5/1, 5/15

Q3 and 4 Goals

1. Q3 and 4 Law Improvement Goals:	<b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Monthly meeting for full group, small group conversations as needed. <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Identify Sections which may need to be updated in response to Secretary of State feedback. <b>Electronic Wills:</b> Monthly meetings <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Monthly meetings
2. Q3 and 4 Policy Improvement Goals:	<b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria work group</b> outreach, consider proposal at full Commission meeting in March.
3. Q3 and 4 Governance Goals	Post student roles, work with Administrative Committee

Q3 and 4 Law Improvement Goals

In January and February, we will:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Full Group meeting in</li> </ul>
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	<p>January, small group meetings (waiver, court of record, 19 v. 138) in February.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Review feedback from Secretary of State’s office.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Full group meeting in January.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Full group meeting in January.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Full work groups will not be meeting during the legislative session.</p>
<p>What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Scheduling of small group meetings.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Outreach to previous work group members.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Navigating complex area of the proposed Act.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Questions about technology.</li> </ul>
<p>Things that we will do to plan for success:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Work with small groups to get timeline out.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Outreach to previous work group members. Identify areas of interest from SoS materials.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Outreach to other states.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Outreach to ULC and OJD.</li> </ul>
<p>Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Time and draft language.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> spreadsheet of sections.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Outreach to ULC and other states.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Feedback from ULC and OJD.</li> </ul>
<p>We will know we’ve met this goal if:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Small group meetings are scheduled.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Materials sent to interested persons.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Engagement with other state experts.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Materials prepared for March meeting by OJD.</li> </ul>
<p>In March and April, we will:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Complete discussions on waiver and court of record. Begin discussion on 19 v. 138 and municipal offense conversation.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Work with SoS to determine budget implications of LLC Act.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Full meetings to discuss notice and Section 7.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> OJD presentation.</li> </ul>
<p>What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Legislative session. Lack of feedback from defense.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Incomplete analysis of sections in question.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Section 7 questions.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Not getting information for court processes conversation.</li> </ul>
<p>Things that we will do to plan for success:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Schedule meetings in February for March and April.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Distribute information on sections in question in February.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Work with ULC.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Work with ULC.</li> </ul>
<p>Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Scheduling.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> OLC RA time</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> OLC RA time and ULC</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> OLC RA time and ULC</li> </ul>
We will know we've met this goal if:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Draft language for waiver and court of record, begin discussions on 19/138 and municipal</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> sufficient information to work with LC on drafting.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Informed discussion on notice and Section 7.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Informed discussion on submission of materials to court.</li> </ul>

In May and June, I will:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Prepare materials for monthly meetings. Complete 19/138.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Begin to review draft.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Prepare materials for monthly meetings.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Prepare materials for monthly meetings.</li> </ul>
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What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> 19/138 is a large issue.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Work group is not ready to review draft, Secretary of State is still determining best path forward.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Change in OLC RA.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Change in OLC RA.</li> </ul>
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Things that we will do to plan for success:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Small group meetings as necessary.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Complete drafting feedback and changes early.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Work with 2025 – 2026 OLC RA to prepare for changeover.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Work with 2025 – 2026 OLC RA to prepare for changeover.</li> </ul>
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> Sufficient time for staff to prep materials.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Sufficient time for staff to prep materials.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Sufficient time for staff to prep materials.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Sufficient time for staff to prep materials.</li> </ul>
We will know we've met this goal if:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Municipal and Justice Court Workgroup:</b> 19/138 completed. Municipal offenses begun.</li> <li>• <b>RULLCA Workgroup:</b> Draft is completed.</li> <li>• <b>Partition of Heirs Property:</b> Meetings held in May and June.</li> <li>• <b>eWills:</b> Meetings held in May and June.</li> </ul>

Q3 and 4 Policy Goals

In January and February, we will:	<p><b>March Full Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Outreach to potential work group members.</li> <li>○ Identify potential chair</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track 2026 Legislative Session to identify upcoming issues.</li> <li>• Connect with legislators, agency representatives and stakeholders as necessary.</li> </ul>
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative Session will distract from planning for future work groups.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legislative Session will distract from planning for future work groups.</li> </ul>

Things that we will do to plan for success:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with stakeholders to identify candidates.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review legislative materials and attend hearings as necessary.</li> </ul>
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time and feedback from work group proponents.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time</li> </ul>
We will know we've met this goal if:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We have a bench of work group members.</li> </ul>
In March and April, we will:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The full Commission will have the opportunity to vote on the proposal.</li> <li>• If approved, schedule the first work group meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review possible future work group projects.</li> </ul>
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of interest from potential work group members.</li> <li>• Lack of interest in potential chair.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full slate of projects.</li> </ul>
Things that we will do to plan for success:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early outreach, work with stakeholder groups.</li> <li>• Lack of interest/bandwidth from potential chairs</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss staffing needs as part of full Commission meeting.</li> </ul>
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities for outreach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient staff.</li> </ul>
We will know we've met this goal if:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities for outreach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sufficient staff.</li> </ul>

In May and June, I will:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold first meeting</li> <li>• Work with OLC RA to create workplan</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalize proposals as necessary.</li> </ul>
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entering the summer months when work group members schedules can be more fractured.</li> <li>• Onboarding new OLC RA.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No proposals.</li> <li>• Onboarding new OLC RA.</li> </ul>
Things that we will do to plan for success:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule early.</li> <li>• Work with previous OLC Estate Planning RA to create work plan draft.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss capacity at June meeting.</li> </ul>
We will know we've met this goal if:	<p><b>Simple Estate Affidavit Criteria Proposal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule early.</li> <li>• Work with previous OLC Estate Planning RA to create work plan draft.</li> </ul> <p><b>Program Committee Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify Commission capacity and if room for additional projects, take that into consideration for July Program Committee meeting.</li> </ul>

Q3 and 4 Governance Goals

In January and February, we will:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Prepare and post job description.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Review proposal in light of workload and legislative budgetary decisions.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Review Program Committee description. Review Commission job description.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Update FY 2026 and review FY 2027 budget for submission to full Commission.</li> </ul>
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	Submit materials to legislature regarding potential budget cuts.
What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> New UO process.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Lack of clarity on potential budget cuts until March.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Limited staff and volunteer time.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Lack of clarity on potential budget cuts until March.</li> </ul>
Things that we will do to plan for success:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Attend training. Work with HR.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Update job description, track budget discussions in legislature.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Update materials</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Track budget discussions.</li> </ul>
Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Complete training and review updates.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Time to track legislation and budget discussions.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Time and opportunity for check in</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Tracking legislation.</li> </ul>
We will know we've met this goal if:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Jobs posted in February.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Materials finalized.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Discussion held on updated job description and program committee materials.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Are prepared for changes to budget outlook.</li> </ul>
In March and April, we will:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Complete interview process and make offer.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Review options and workload after session ends.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Public Records/Archives discussion.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Submit budget to Commission for consideration at March meeting.</li> </ul>
<p>What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Lack of interest in position.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Lack of clarity on additional projects.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Lack of time to explore options.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Lack of clarity from legislative session. Lack of information from UO.</li> </ul>
<p>Things that we will do to plan for success:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Outreach to three law schools and their career services offices.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Work with commissioners, stakeholder and project leads to determine work load.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Work with SoS Archives, OJD, UO, Legislature to identify potential paths forward.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Track legislative budgetary conversations. Work with UO in January and February to get materials and formatting correct.</li> </ul>
<p>Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Job posting and engagement with three law schools.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> An understanding of the Commission’s workload.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> See above.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Feedback from Legislature, OJD, and UO.</li> </ul>

<p>We will know we've met this goal if:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Applications from all three Oregon law schools.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Make a decision to post the position or not.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Options to present at the June Commission meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Updated budget.</li> </ul>
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<p>In May and June, I will:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Onboard OLC RA.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> Additional information is needed to determine next steps. Will updated workplan for June Commission meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Prepare materials for June meeting on Program Committee, Job Descriptions, and Archives.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> Prepare materials for June meeting. Additional information is needed to determine next steps. Will updated workplan for June Commission meeting.</li> </ul>
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<p>What could get in the way of us achieving this goal?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Finals, UO HR juggling multiple priorities.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> See above.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Lack of information/feedback from stakeholders. Scheduling challenges.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> See above.</li> </ul>
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<p>Things that we will do to plan for success:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Early outreach and scheduling.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> See above.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Outreach and regular meetings.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> See above.</li> </ul>
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<p>Resources that we need in order to achieve this goal and why they are important:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Support from UO HR. Travel time.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> See above.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Feedback from commissioners and stakeholders.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> See above.</li> </ul>
<p>We will know we've met this goal if:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>OLC Research Assistants:</b> Ready to go on June 2.</li> <li>• <b>Legal Fellow:</b> See above.</li> <li>• <b>Administrative/Governance Updates:</b> Commissioners have the opportunity to discuss at June meeting.</li> <li>• <b>Budgeting:</b> See above.</li> </ul>