

Members of House Committee on Energy and Environment,

March 13, 2019

My name is James Domes and I oppose HB 2656. I live in a rural area of several communities encompassing about 30000 residents who primarily depend on the Forest Products Industry in some capacity. I have worked for a family owned company for 26 years. This company has managed it's forestland for over 100 years. The employees live in these communities and are deep rooted in all aspects of the communities. Our company provides employment for a variety of contractors, employees and supplies various mills in the area with product from our land. Our water resources are very valuable to us and the communities we live in because we are the ones who use it, and so we responsibly manage our land with that consideration. HB 2656 would cripple our community if put into law. Responsibly managed forestland is the livelihood of our rural area. HB 2656 is extreme and leaves no room for collaboration or working together to find common ground with proponents of this bill. In the opening statements, both Representatives mentioned wanting to work together, come to the table and find a solution to the concerns other communities have regarding this bill, but if this bill passes, there would not be an opportunity to do this. This bill is simply **TOO MUCH, TOO SOON.**

Thank you for considering my testimony,

James Domes