Testimony opposing HB 2659

Thank you:

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee

For the record, my name is Brian Murray, 37420 Sodaville Cut Off, Lebanon

- Husband and Dad
- Certified forester for a local forest consulting firm

Summer of 2011 Purchased our home and 8.5 acres

Compacted pasture

Invasive weeds such as Himalayan Blackberry & Tansy

Applied for forest deferral

6 acres

Plan: treat invasives and plant over 1,200 native merchantable trees

DF, Alaska yellow cedar, Oregon White ash, W. red cedar, Incense cedar, and Willamette Valley Ponderosa Pine

Grasses and invasives were sprayed, trees were planted by me and my kids.

I estimate the cost of establishment of our small forest to be \$3500

Lessened my annual property tax by \$1,000

Single income family – this is huge...love for forests and economic driver!

My dad – similar story, but has planted native Oregon White Oak! Amazing! Hours and hours of work.

As a forest consultant

- Over 15 years - Educated dozens of people on Forest Deferral
- Guide people to the economic benefits of growing proud forests in Oregon