

**UNITED
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February 6, 2020

Rep Karin Power, Chair
Reps Bonham and Sollman, Vice Chairs
And Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environment

RE: HB 4093

The Association of Oregon Counties supports HB 4093.

In many of Oregon's rural counties, jobs related to the forest products industry are critical to maintaining economic and social stability. Jobs in the woods, the mills, and in trucking forest products are some of the highest paying jobs in rural counties and are fully benefited.

In the near term, HB 4093 will enable the creation of additional family wage jobs in Grant County by facilitating the creation of a manufacturing facility that turns wood waste into a marketable product. The jobs that will be created by this development will have a positive impact in Grant County. Clarifying and simplifying the permitting process will get these jobs on the ground sooner.

In the future, the technology that is developed by this facility has the potential to spur job creation in many rural Oregon counties.

AOC urges your support for HB 4093.

Sincerely,

Susan Morgan

Natural Resources Policy
Association of Oregon Counties
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