

Thank you Chair Witt and Committee Members,

I am Matt Stevenson and I live on stolen Multnomah, Kalapuya, Cowlitz, Clatskanie, Clackamas, and Molalla land, and I urge you to advance HB 2357, which would eliminate the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) and Oregon Forest Resources Institute Fund. This bill would push Oregon away from corruption, propaganda, and a refusal to listen to obvious science.

As a high schooler, I have seen the effects of OFRI's misleading work firsthand. Recently I was emailed by OFRI, which advertised "careers in the woods" for a talk from someone working at Hampton lumber. It is beyond infuriating to me to see logging, which is the single largest cause of carbon emissions in Oregon, which leads to an increased risk of wildfire and pollutes communities watersheds, portrayed to students as "a career in the woods." Instead of having propaganda for an industry that is destroying my future, we must have honest, good education based on science. That is why I urge you to advance HB 2357.

Thank you