

For the record, my name is Kent Tresidder. I operate a tree farm near Coquille. I'm a member of the Oregon Small Woodland Association and the Society of American Foresters but I am testifying only for myself today.

I will begin by stating that I oppose HB 2357.

I previously submitted written testimony on HB 2357. However, at yesterday evening's hearing, I was caught off guard at the intense comments by proponents of the bill and the equally intense feelings by opponents of the bill. Obviously, OFRI is a hot topic! Though I knew the Secretary of State was conducting a performance audit of OFRI, I had no idea why. And I still don't.

I believe both sides of this issue deserve to know all the facts and to see justice done. However, not yet having findings of fact from the Secretary of State, it appears to me that HB 2357 is at least PREMATURE, if not PREJUDICIAL.

If OFRI is suspected of wrongdoing, they should be tried in a court of law. Punishment is not be the work of the legislative branch.

As a reminder, we forestland owners LIKE what OFRI has done for us. We PAY for it. And we do NOT want OFRI to be eliminated.

Please do not allow OFRI or its funding to be destroyed before we have all the facts.

Thank you for reading to my comments.