

To the Senate Committee on Natural Resource and Wildlife Recovery: I Oppose SB 335....

Most states and Oregon Oregon Boards and commissioners require significant representation from the the profession or industry that is regulated. Why should this be different? For the Oregon Board of Agriculture, 7 of the 9 members MUST be actively engaged in the production of commodities, Oregon Health Authority- No More than 4 of 9 members can be employed in a health care or related field.

The Board's members make important, impacting decisions on management activities that are critical for our rural businesses and communities they support throughout Oregon. How is the board able to adequately vote on regulations without the on-the-ground practical knowledge of how these regulations will affect the many foresters, loggers and landowners who live and work in the woods everyday? This is leaving a critical portion of the regulation making decisions out of the equation of good management!

Our current system allows executive (Governor), oversight. Several if not most agencies, boards and commissions in Oregon function this way. The Regional Forest Practices Committees give the agency and Board the opportunity to receive insight from the on the ground practicing foresters, forest engineers, landowners and watershed managers, helping inform the policymakers when new rules, guidance documents, or other forest polices are being deployed. This a way to make better informed policy. In addition it makes me feel as if I have a voice!