

## Testimony in opposition to SB 335

I am a professional forester with a degree in forest management from Oregon State University. I am a past chair of the Clackamas County Small Woodland Association. I oppose SB 335 for the following reasons

1. The future of forestry in Oregon depends on regulators that have a deep understanding of practical forest management. A majority of the members of the Board of Forestry must have that knowledge. Rural communities depend on the good stewardship of these forests.
2. Most Oregon boards require significant representation from the profession that they regulate. For example, Teacher Standards of Practice Commission 15 of the 17 members have to be from the education community. Understanding the impact and practicality of new rules or regulations should be done by professionals knowledgably in forestry.
3. Requiring the Governor to appoint the State Forester and that they report only to the governor further politicizes the position. This is a profession position that should not subject to governor politics. The agency deserves to be led by a professional not an appointee that follows the political wind. .
4. The Regional Forestry Practices Committees gives the agency and the Board the opportunity to received insight from on-the ground practicing foresters, engineers, landowners and watershed managers, helping inform policymakers when new rules guidance documents, or other forest policies are being developed. Eliminating this advisory is wrong.

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