

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery  
State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97310

March 18, 2021

Thank you, Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Heard, and members of the committee for considering this written testimony. For the record my name is Brennan Garrelts and I am a forester for Lone Rock Resources based out of Roseburg Oregon. I am writing in opposition to SB335-3.

**SB335-3 is Precedent Setting:**

This bill is contrary to the 'Oregon Way' where engaged citizens from all walks of life work with industry professionals to design state-level policy for the best outcomes of *all* Oregonians. The Oregon State Board Book <<https://www.oregon.gov/gov/admin/Documents/Board%20Book%202018.pdf>> lists the rules and statutes governing the numerous citizen boards in Oregon. Despite my best efforts I cannot find another board in the state of Oregon that meets the same member requirements proposed in SB335-3.

**ODF Board Function will degrade:**

I fully recognize that no other sector in Oregon is quite as contentious as forest management. This is not entirely a bad thing. The plethora of stakeholders that are engaged in forestry help ensure that the policies that impact the regulated community, in this case forestry, are properly vetted in science -rather than emotion and are implemented in a manner that does not overly harm the regulated community nor the public good resources that our forest contribute to. This is good governance. SB335-3 will all but ensure that the professional expertise of practicing foresters can be ignored and disregarded. The existing structure of the Board of Forestry, which currently limits industry professionals to less than a majority, help educate other board members on how policy may impact professional practitioners.

**Family-owned forestland owners will suffer the most:**

From my perspective these changes to the Board of Forestry will continue to make it increasingly difficult for family-owned forestland owners, those who care the most about the communities they live and operate in, to maintain viable businesses. While it won't be immediate, changes such as these will inevitably lead to family-owners selling out to multi-national forestland owners who have economy of scale to operate on smaller and smaller margins. This will greatly change the landscape of rural Oregon-politically, socially, and economically. As I have witnessed in other states, once this first domino falls there is no amount of legislation, incentives, or pleading that can reverse it.

Thank you for your consideration. I hope you will think deeply and critically about the unintended and long-term consequences changes like these can have on the fabric of Oregon as we know it.

Regards,

*Brennan Garrelts*

Lone Rock Resources  
Roseburg, OR

248 Testimony:

Appreciate the effort: wildfire council, achieve better outcomes for all Oregonians, lone rock is tied into 3 dozen rural communities that bear the brunt of risk and impacts during fire season.

We have some questions

Unintended consequences

PRIORITIES:

START FROM BACK TO FRONT -

PREAMBLE: