

No on Senate Bill 335

Chairman Golden, Vice Chair Heard, Members; Kennemer, Patterson and Prozanski of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

My name is Milton I. Moran Jr., President of Cascade Timber Consulting, Inc., (CTC), located in Sweet Home, Oregon. We manage the Hill Timber Limited Partnership lands, all in Linn County.

We have a 145,000 Acre Tree Farm.

I Live in the Sweet Home area and a lifelong Oregonian raised in Linn County.

I have worked on this tree farm for the Hill family for nearly 48 years, the same owner since 1916 and held in a timber trust since 1917.

I come to you today in **Opposition of Senate Bill 335**

Senate Bill 335 goes in the wrong direction in a time when the timber industry and the environmental community have come together to push forward the Private Forest Accord. The Oregon Legislature supported this effort by passing Senate Bill 1602 in June of 2020.

The hiring and firing of the State Forester have been the sole responsibility of the Board of Forestry. These board members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Recruiting, interviewing and decision making for the hiring of the State Forester is the job of that board of directors. Appointment of the State Forester by the Governor further politicizes an already highly and contentious board. The State Forester must be accountable to the Board of Forestry, not the Governor.

Senate Bill 335 eliminates the three Regional Forest Practices Committees. These committees are citizen advisors to the Board of Forestry. These advisors include foresters, engineers, landowners and watershed managers, helping to inform and provide needed guidance specific to the varying geographic areas represented. Why on earth would you want to again stop the voice of local experts and neighbors?

Most of Oregon's commissions and boards require significant representation from professionals of the regulated industry. I sit on a Hospital Board of Directors as well as the System Board that oversees five hospitals. As a forestry professional, and a medical lay person on these boards, I rely heavily on the doctors, nurses and other administrative medical professionals that make up other board positions. These career medical professionals bring educated and experienced points of view and historical perspective to board decision processes. How would you feel about a medical system who did not have medical professionals in governance of healthcare facilities and personnel you trust to take of you and your families? Not having significant forestry and landowner representation on the Board of Forestry impairs the board's ability to make qualified decisions on forest management activities that are critical for our rural communities and businesses. The Board of Forestry must have a significant number positions held by Forestry Professionals, including landowners, both large and small. The Board must have "on the ground" practical working knowledge of how regulations will impact many landowners and forestry professionals working on the land every day.

Please Oppose Senate Bill 335

Your careful and deliberate considerations are appreciated.

Thank you for your service to the citizens of Oregon

Milton I. Moran Jr.

Sweet Home, Oregon