

April 7, 2021

RE: HB 2379

FROM: Chris C Johnson, Executive Director Timber Operations, Shanda Asset Management, Sunriver, OR

OPPOSE HB 2379

Now is not the time to impose a severance tax on timber and abolish the Emergency Fire Cost Committee.

Many counties in Oregon have already expressed their opposition to this bill from which they could benefit because they see that the greater overall harm outweighs the benefit.

Many small, rural businesses like ours have been hit with the Corporate Activity Tax and now to impose a further tax burden on us is downright insulting and ridiculous.

I would much rather see increased revenue going to the counties through increases in harvest on our federal lands through payment in lieu of taxes. The counties benefit and most importantly, fuel loading is reduced on our federal timberlands that has contributed to the catastrophic fires we have recently experienced.

You are simply punishing the hard working men and women whose livelihood is based on utilizing our timber resources.