

I am writing in support of HB 2357 and in favor of independent, truthful, science-based information for all Oregonians. We need climate science and smart forestry to guide our actions. We must have transparency in the use of public funds. Our schools need independent, science-based curriculum and funding for outdoor education without the influence of the Oregon Forest Resources Institute.

OFRI does not present sound or responsible scientific information to our schools or the general public. It is marketing pro-timber propaganda.

OFRI has misled Oregonians with dishonest advertising; its board is made up of members that represent and are dependent on Big Timber.

We need academic freedom and support for scientists; OFRI has attempted to silence scientific research and lobbied to undermine groundbreaking work at OSU's College of Forestry. OFRI is publicly funded, yet it has lobbied against climate-smart forestry. Forest policy must be informed by best forest science.

Please redirect OFRI funding to benefit the state of Oregon, not the timber industry.