

Dear Chair Nathanson and Committee Members:

My testimony today is in support of HB 2357. I am a mother, grandmother and retired teacher; I care deeply about the future we leave to those behind us. The Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) clearly does not present sound or responsible scientific information to our schools and the general public. This is an one of many ways OFRI that has betrayed our trust and had a detrimental impact on our forests. OFRI should not use public funds for their activities.

Here is what I advocate for and hope you will too through your support of HB 2357:

- Climate science and climate smart forestry. Students learning about Oregon's forests need to know the amount of forest carbon that our forests can store naturally, and the amount that is emitted by logging in Oregon. We cannot begin to reduce emissions unless we know what our impact is on the climate.
- Transparency in use of public funds
- Independent, science-backed curriculum without OFRI as middleman
- Funding for outdoor education that doesn't have to go through OFRI
- Academic freedom for scientists, unbiased support for research
- Forest policy informed by the best forest science
- Redirect OFRI funds to benefit the state of Oregon!

OFRI has lost public trust through its long-standing disinformation campaign and illegal, behind-the-scenes efforts to undermine public understanding of key issues. We need independent, truthful, scientific information to be provided to all Oregonians! Help end OFRI and instill sustainable forestry and science-based, climate-smart policy instead of fraud and forests for profit!  
Thank you, Emily Polanshek