

Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the Committee:

I am appreciative of the progress on this bill this session, as in past practice, OFRI has been exclusively a marketing mouthpiece for industrial Timber at taxpayer expense. I am in support of HB 2357-A Engrossed because the Oregon Forest Resources Institute has historically not presented sound or responsible scientific information to our schools and the general public. I 100% support prohibiting OFRI from engaging in "generalized advertising for public education." OFRI has marketed pro-timber propaganda as curriculum for schools: OFRI's forestry curriculum cherry picks forest science and skews information to cast industry as benign. OFRI's curriculum underplays the impacts of clear cut logging and presents timber industry messaging points as forest facts.

Given the climate and biodiversity crises facing our world, I also support redirecting half of the timber tax to support climate science, reporting and monitoring of pesticide use in forest operations, and adaptive management driven by research.

My priorities for the outcomes on this new framing for Oregon Forest management and OFRI include:

- Prioritizing climate science and climate smart forestry
- 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!

I support this bill's direction to develop and apply sound forestry practices in collaboration with other state agencies, to direct department to use moneys in Family Forestlands Subaccount to provide certain support for owners of small forestlands. I am deeply in favor of expanding the board of directors of Oregon Forest Resources Institute to include as voting members one person who represents environmental community and one person who has experience with fishery or wildlife-related science.

OFRI has lost its social license through its long-standing disinformation campaign and its illegal, behind-the-scenes efforts to undermine public understanding of key issues. We need independent, truthful scientific information being provided to all Oregonians!

Thanks for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Debby Garman, Hillsboro OR