

Chair Nathanson and members of the committee,

We are Mary T. ("Maureen") and James Barnhart, and we live in unincorporated Washington County, adjacent to the North Bethany development. We urge your support of HB 2070 with Rep. Nathanson's amendment.

We have a small woodlot, a mixture of 7 acres of mature trees and 3 acres of newly planted (timber producing) trees. We feel that the support from the public entities, both state and county, are the reason that we can enjoy the privilege of increasing the forested acreage, thus using the land for a better purpose globally than its previous use as a dairy farm. We certainly agree that we are willing to pay to continue support such as we received from those public agencies, and we appreciate the current Legislative efforts toward setting a sensible tax structure that ensures the agencies remain strong.

Thank you.