

I am writing in opposition to HB 5010, because it calls for the elimination of DOGAMI. As Oregonians, we need a dedicated group of scientists whose unbiased commitment is to protecting us from natural hazards. Oregonians deserve a well funded agency that can plan for the future. We cannot afford to be unprepared for the next disaster.

Personally, I am a geology teacher. Every day I use DOGAMI products to teach my students about natural hazards. Because of DOGAMI, my students have the information to avoid buying a home in a landslide prone area, or to know that they need to seismically retrofit their home so that it will be fit for occupation after the next big earthquake. Because of DOGAMI, my students have tsunami evacuation maps in their glove boxes when they visit the coast. Because of DOGAMI, more Oregonians will survive the next big earthquake and resultant tsunami.

We cannot afford to let developers and their lobbyists override science. DOGAMI's mission is to protect us. How can you deprive us of such necessary protection?