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Written public testimony response to Measure: HB 2379: SUMMARY Imposes severance tax on owner of timber at time of harvest at five percent of value of timber. Directs revenue from severance tax to be transferred to Emergency Wildfire Fund. Repeals forest products harvest taxes and funds certain associated expenditures with severance tax revenues. Abolishes Emergency Fire Cost Committee. Abolishes Oregon Forest Land Protection Fund.

I agree that corporate REIT and TIMO's should be assessed a severance tax – currently large corporations take resources out of Oregon and neither employ Oregonians for adaptive resources management nor return a resource share to counties for the services the counties provided that enabled profitable taking of the resource. Public land timber cuts to should pay taxes too. However, I advocate for capturing and redistributing a higher proportion of resource-share to fund protecting and addressing harms to community drinking water. The side benefit of focusing on adaptively managing habitat to protect water resources will also result in wildfire prevention and protection of fish and wildlife. Wildfire hardening should be a small percentage of redirected funding.

•Municipal water system maintenance is needed due to:

•High cost of water systems and

•Inability to control over the threats due to laxity in forest practices that lead to silt, landslides, and pesticide buildup.

•High cost to purchase watershed land or even intake area

•Purchase or payment to assure a larger buffer zone

•Loss of water quantity and quality during drought

•Redirect the remaining portion of revenue to counties for social services and quality of life as property taxes. The severance tax disappeared with no rise in property tax to cover county services.