

Our school funding and funding for other essential services come from thriving businesses. Further taxing on businesses and investments, like this timber tax, will be detrimental to our timber businesses and therefore detrimental to important state services. We cannot tax our way out of issues. Many timberland owners have small tracts of land that they have managed and planned on using the funds for retirement. This is so harmful for these hard working folks. The larger commercial tracts are essential for providing significant wood products for the world and jobs for Oregonians. Increases taxes in these larger tracts will further hinder our housing shortage with increased costs of lumber for homes and make it cost prohibitive to harvest and manage timberlands which leads to fewer jobs. This bill is not a good solution to anything, especially with the direction our economy is going, with recovering from the pandemic and with already increased costs from the CAT tax. It is time to stop beating up in the good guys. With a mass exodus out of Oregon with legislation like this, there will be no businesses to pay these taxes.