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February 26, 2021

To: House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources; others

Re: I OPPOSE [HB 2070]...VOTE "NO" on all "Privilege Taxes" in Oregon!...Audit OSU Extension Offices!

The Resource Economy (Agriculture, Timber products, Fisheries and Mining) cannot tolerate addition problems foisted upon them by the Legislature.

Timber companies are under increased pressures from COVID-19 and corrupt Land Use decisions constantly increasing Urban Growth Boundary expansions, to promote residential housing projects which directly interferes with their; growing, harvest and transportation of goods to market.

So far, you have squeezed the "Privilege Taxes" out of the Forest and Timber folks but beware, they have many friends who vote and any legislator that supports [HB 2070] might annoy the voters in the next election cycle.

If Oregon State University needs revenue for "professional forestry education, forest research and experimentation programs and Forest Research Laboratory," compel OSU to reduce expenditures to support; politically generated programs such as feeding the homeless at Extension Office Taxing Districts.

When is the last time the Audits Division performed financial and performance audits on Extension Offices?

Is OSU Extension Offices supporting the imposition of "Privilege Taxes" on the Forest folks?

How is it possible the Legislature can impose a "Privilege Tax" on products yet to be harvested?

I have a much better idea;

Stick your "Privilege Taxes" into the southern region of your alimentary canals!

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David S. Wall

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