

B&G Logging & Construction  
201 MAIN ST.  
Philomath, OR 97370

To: Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to present my comments today.

Van Decker, representing B&G Logging & Construction from Philomath, Oregon.

We are a small, family-owned logging company owned by Levi Beelart of Philomath. We buy timber sales from the Forest Service, BLM, ODF, and private landowners in the Philomath area. We log every day to harvest the purchased timber sales and sell logs to 10 different local sawmills. Our logging crew is 40 employees.

We ship 60 million BF of logs per year and pay harvest taxes of \$240,000 per year.

This amounts to \$6,000 per employee, per year.

We pay the same harvest tax if the logs come off of state, federal, or private lands.

With the cost we are presently paying for harvest tax, any increase in harvest tax or severance tax will affect the profitability of the company. Therefore, I urge you to vote against any bills which increase the severance tax.

Thank you for the opportunity to come before you today.