As an Oregon educator I am strongly opposing the bill to eliminate funding to OFRI. For nearly 20 years fifth grade teachers across Oregon have depended on their funding to support field trips and busing costs. OFRI provides curriculum, posters, video/DVR resources, access to the Oregon Gardens, and provides assistance for a number of other activities. My students have traveled to the Oregon Gardens to see first hand the valuable resources that are on that property and take part in their hands-on activities. OFRI provides hands-on learning for teachers too! We have the opportunity to take that knowledge and share it with our students so they can be better informed about natural resources in our state.

I work at a Title I school in southern Oregon and without the financial support of OFRI I would not be able to take my students on field trips. Our families cannot afford to pay for their children to experience the wonders that our state has to offer. Programs such as Talk About Trees and the Glide Forestry Tour have been staples for our school. Program directors come to our school and provide various training and activities to teach our students about the natural world that we live in.

I would implore you to continue support for OFRI.

Sincerely, Sherri Good