

Chairman Witt and members of the committee, Please think long-term and community-wide. I fully support HB 2357 to eliminate OFRI, for its excessive and wasteful budget, for its blatant timber industry bias, for its corruption and dishonesty and for its deceitful propaganda that feigns "conservation" even as it promotes ecosystem destructive clear-cuts, watershed contamination and outdated forest management. Teachers use "Talk about Trees" OFRI materials because they're free, but they deserve better, as do the counties who feel forced to log vulnerable public land to pay for parks and services.

Stop the lie! Defund OFRI and give the money to schools, counties, parks and watershed restoration. Regulate AND monitor pesticide use [sec.1(1)b.] Shift forest education to non-partisan, non-profit academic and science-based sources. OFRI is about timber extraction for short-term profits, much of it to wealthy investors. Think long-term and community-wide. Eliminate OFRI!! Yes on HB 2357.