

Submitter: rand schenck

On Behalf Of: metro climate action team

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Measure: SB1546

Senator Golden and Members of the Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Policy,

My name is Rand Schenck, Forestry Lead for the Metro Climate Action Team, which is sponsored by OLCV.

We strongly support all three bills being considered, SB 1546, SB 1502, and SB 1502

First, I want to start with the Elliott State Research Forest. This has been a contentious issue for many years. We finally have a solution that will lead to two significant benefits: funding of the Common School Fund and protecting a highly important natural resource.

Second, the Private Forest Accord is another excellent example of what can be accomplished with a contentious issue when parties with very different agendas engage in dialogue. With these enhance protections – especially for riparian areas and steep slopes - salmon and people dependent on water-supply water sheds will both benefit.

Third, the tax credit for small forest land-owners, who collectively own millions of acres of forest land in Oregon, will incentivize those owners to grow their trees longer.

Overall, we will see two highly important outcomes. We will help mitigate the climate crisis by storing and sequestering more carbon, and we will help protect several endangered species.

Rand Schenck
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