



Joint Committee on Transportation  
900 Court St NE, Room 453  
Salem, Or 97301

Submitted via: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2022R1/Testimony/JCT>

February 9, 2022

**Bill Harvey**  
Commission Chair  
[bharvey@bakercounty.org](mailto:bharvey@bakercounty.org)

Re: House Bill 4141

Dear Committee:

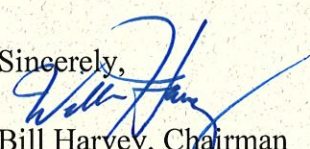
Baker County opposes House Bill 4141. Further, the County encourages the Joint Committee on Transportation to stop this Bill from ever leaving the Committee.

The infrastructure is not currently available to produce renewable diesel in the amounts needed to provide fuel for transport of goods (trucks and trains), provide food and biomass from use of ag and forest machines, and allow for private citizens to sustain their livelihoods and continue their customs and cultures. “...*because of lower production volumes, there’s already a supply crisis.*” (Renewable Energy Group)

It is nonsensical to think that this complex system will not fail. For example, there’s not enough ‘non harvestable’ fuel load to sustain production of biomass as once it’s gone, it’s gone. It takes many, many years to regrow a forest. Too, there will be competition between ag crops for use as biomass to create the renewable diesel and crops for human and animal consumption. To compound the equation, how are the machines used for harvesting biomass, wood or crops, going to run without the fuel that they are supposed to be supplying components for? The time is not right for this significant fuel conversion, nor the correct legislature for discussion. A Bill of this magnitude should go through the regular session, not the short session as many more weeks of conversation should occur.

Baker County does not support HB 4141. We’re asking that it not leave Committee.

Sincerely,

  
Bill Harvey, Chairman  
Baker County Commission