

Submitter: Angelita Sanchez

On Behalf Of: Timber Unity

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3158

Shame on you for trying to impose these new taxes on industries that are already suffering from the affects of inflation.

This appears to be a direct attack natural resources and the working families that sustain our state and communities.

Many of these businesses have already purchased Tier Four equipment which is the strictest clean emissions standards, to the tune of millions and millions of dollars. Many of them can not afford those, so they rent the equipment instead. This will only make the cost of doing business more expensive. It is not a luxury to do blue-collar business in The State of Oregon, it is a hardship and this is intended to make it even more hard.

Off-road diesel is for pieces of equipment that do not run on-road, which is the reason for the tax of on-road diesel and the road mile tax. The Roads. The equipment does not damage roads. There is no need to tax. Trying to impose said taxes, when we are all working, is disgraceful and really just a kick to the gut while we are down.

You claim there's no affordable housing, and if that was the most important issue, you should be ashamed of yourself right now. I work with builders who told me two days ago, last years lumber material cost for a house was \$22,000 and this year the lumber for the same house cost \$46,000. You're going to continue to have a stateful of tent cities if you insist to continue to nickel and dime every construction and natural resources activity. Ultimately it trickles down to the consumer, as it always does, and working families are already struggling. The cost of many construction projects have doubled and have priced many communities and families right out of the housing market and this only makes matters worse.

You've already imposed a CAT tax that blatantly gets passed on to the consumer, now you're trying to impose a privilege tax, an off-road diesel license tax (to equipment whom never even use a road) a tire tax, a equipment rental tax, a tax tax tax. Who do you believe accomplishes all the construction repairs that are currently going on in your building? Contractors and subcontractors who use offroad diesel for their rented or purchased equipment. And the taxpayers are paying for it, and you essentially are raising the construction costs there too? Unbelievable.

Loggers, Farmers, Construction workers should be considered heroes, for trying to

keep businesses afloat during these unprecedented economic times. They need carrots not sticks, incentives not regressive taxes. Clearly this bill is completely out of touch. There appears to be no concept of reality. The cost of doing business in the state of Oregon is one of the most expensive places to operate. You cannot continue to put the burden on the backs of the working families in Oregon, unless your intention is to break them. You have to prioritize your spending in a different way, which all working families are forced to do now. Lead by example, not just more tax tax TAXING these businesses and Oregonians to death.

Angelita Sanchez  
#timberunity PAC  
Co-Director