

Submitter: Sarah Deumling

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and
Water

Measure: HB2998

I own and manage 1300 acres of family forest land in Polk County though I grew up on a Willamette Valley family farm and am surrounded by family farms west of Salem. For both farmers and forest managers our soil is our capital. We let it degrade at our own peril and the peril of all Oregonians who depend on productivity of that land for their food and fiber. Our land and our soil literally sustain us along with our precious water resources. I welcome HB 2998 and encourage you to support it and move it forward. Any financial or technical help to restore our soils is at the top of my list of good things to do for the future economic, environmental, climate and social livability of Oregon.

My only regret is that HB 2998 does not also cover forest soils as there are a number of common forest management practices that also lead to soil degradation, including the loss of soil carbon.

Sincerely,
Sarah Deumling