

Submitter: Jody Behr

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: HB4106

At this time it is critically important that we make decisions from the perspective that the land and its ecosystems are critical for the survival of all species on Planet Earth. We can no longer prioritize short-term human needs at the detriment of other species. Our Oregon forests are crucial to the health of the drinking water, clean air, and the entire ecosystem that we depend upon. I understand that this is an incredibly challenging time for our leadership and that difficult decisions must be made. I live in Hood River and witness first-hand the devastation of clear cutting and massive logging on our forests and the trickle-down impacts on the natural world. Our planet's climate is changing and we are experiencing shifting weather patterns. This will get much more difficult before it gets better, if it does. We must do everything we can to prioritize the longevity of our state forests. The practices of the past must change. Please listen to the scientists who base their recommendations in the best available science. I'm a professional civil engineer and am facing similar challenges in my profession. The ways of doing things must change and we must change with them. My fellow engineers are going through growing pains as we realize that we must build our world for humans so that it supports the natural environment around us. We depend on our plants and trees to breathe. It's really that simple. Thank you for reading my words and taking them to heart. Jody