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February 15, 2024

**Re: Please oppose HB 4106**

Chair Helm, Vice Chair Hartman, Vice Chair Owens, and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water:

I write today on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN), and ask you to oppose HB 4106. COIN is a coalition of over 50 Indivisible groups in Oregon that cooperate and amplify their joint efforts to advance federal and state legislation and engage with their elected officials to promote progressive causes.

We strongly oppose HB 4106 and believe it to be a transparent effort by the timber industry to sabotage the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) within the current Western Oregon State Forest Management Plan. This framework for the future of our state forests has been under development for several years. The Oregon Department of Forestry has provided multiple opportunities, beginning in March of 2022, for the public, stakeholders, department staff and consultants to share concerns about the HCP and address solutions.

We strongly support the HCP, which will provide a more holistic and cost-effective way to comply with the federal Endangered Species Act, while managing state forests for social, economic, and environmental benefits.

If passed, HB 4106 would require that state forests be managed solely to maximize timber harvest, ignoring other current management considerations such as clean water, salmon and wildlife habitat, tourism and recreation.

Our state forests provide so much value to Oregonians beyond timber harvest profit. We deserve a management plan that addresses ALL of these values as well as long-term sustainability. Please do not pass HB 4106.

Thank you.

Deborah Ferrer  
COIN Legislative Team