

Submitter: Chris Freeman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB1593

I strongly oppose SB 1593. This bill claims to study a way to fund wildfire but the Legislature already funded a quarter of a million dollar study on wildfire funding in 2020. We don't need another costly study.

This proposal would make Oregon timber less competitive in the marketplace and result in more sawmills closing. Putting the cost of fire from mismanaged government forests onto private timber owners is not the answer.

The Private Forest Accord legislation (2022) was very costly for the timber industry and the full effects of it are only just being felt. And according to recent economic research, Oregon's timber industry is already taxed at a much higher rate than other businesses.

Please oppose this poorly conceived bill.

Thank you.

Chris Freeman  
Controller  
Bettendorf Enterprises, Inc.