

My family opposes SB 1593 for the following reasons:

1. Elimination of OFRI funding.
 - a. OFRI is closely coordinating with ODF on communication to educate and explain technical details surrounding the Private Forest Accord(PFA) with Small Forest Owner (SFO) landowners and public. There is really no other organization engaged to do this.
 - b. OFRI produces numerous valuable educational publications on sustainable forestry, wildlife, water, reforestation to name a few for the SFO community.
 - c. OFRI is a leading source of information on wildfire prevention for rural landowners.
 - d. OFRI publications are a "go to" source highly prized by SFO people.
2. Elimination of OFLPF funding (ORS 321.015). All landowner costs for large fire will be paid by surcharges on minimum lots, improved lots and acreage assessment.
3. Counties are not required to spend the money they receive for fire protection.
4. State Fire Marshall receives 25% of the proceeds from the bill but they do not protect timberland.
5. Percentage increase in tax for small landowners who harvest timber-165% to 265% depending on value of timber at time of harvest. (\$500-\$800/MBF)
6. Negative downstream effect on entire industry due to increased taxes.
7. Value tax verses a volume tax on timber production. Increases incentive to grow low value (short rotation) timber which reduces carbon sequestration and may have a negative effect on water quality.
8. High-cost logging jobs will be taxed at higher rate creating disincentive to fire mitigation work.
9. Different tax rates based on acreage owned or FSC certification.
 - a. There is no evidence that FSC is superior to American Tree Farm certification.
 - b. FSC does have higher costs and complexity which discriminates against smaller landowners.
10. Splits industry both by ownership size and certification selected.

Amendments biggest concerns:

1. Study has biased questions and biased consultants.
2. This is simply an anti-forestry study.
3. Severance taxes are intended to tax an extraction industry. Forestry has moved beyond that model and is now a sustainable cropping system using a renewable resource more like farming than mining.
4. Studies have shown water coming from forestland is of very high quality.
 - a. PFA which just went into effect for small woodland owners will help to improve quality more.
 - b. There is no science showing water quantity is reduced by management.
5. The timeline does not work for ODF.
6. Different tax rates based on acreage owned or FSC certification.
 - a. There is no evidence that FSC is superior to American Tree Farm certification.
 - b. FSC does have higher costs and complexity which discriminates against smaller landowners.
7. Splits industry both by ownership size and certification selected.

8. Tax on public timber less than tax on large landowner but US Forest Service land accounts for largest share of burned acres in the state.

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