

Submitter: John Spahr

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB1593

I support a solution that is fair and equitable to all Oregonians, and includes restoring a value tax on harvested timber that provides revenue to develop fire-safe communities, funds vital local public services and restores drinking water sources.

I support incentives, including a reduced tax rate for forestland owners who grow their trees longer and use climate smart forestry e.g. Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification. Longer rotations and protecting mature and old growth trees are the most effective natural climate solution that will result in more carbon on the landscape over time.

Oregon needs permanent funding to support all of us to prepare our homes and communities to survive fast moving wildfires. Experts say to focus on ignition resistance before a fire comes. By focusing from the home outwards, not the forest in, we can make Oregon fire safe.