

Submitter: Richard Emery

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, and Members of the Committee,

I oppose House Bill 3103 and its amendments. This timber industry bill undermines the state forest habitat conservation plan and would result in more clearcuts, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage.

I quote former President Theodore Roosevelt: "Leave it as it is. You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it, and man can only mar it."

I urge you to oppose this bill. Instead, I encourage this committee to focus on measures that would increase carbon storage in our state forests and safeguard our public resources for our children and future generations. We must learn to live with less. Humanity's insatiable need for more must be curtailed if we are to survive and have a chance for a healthy way of life. Please lead with courage. Those alive today and future generations will honor and follow your wisdom.

Please don't let this bill pass out of committee.

Sincerely and with warm wishes for your well-being and that of all beings, including our forests,

Richard Emery