

Submitter: Rachael Baskind  
On Behalf Of: taking care of our earth  
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. As someone who has worked and volunteered in environmental restoration and animal rescue, I see that this bill makes ZERO sense. We are stewards of this land and it is loaned to us. It is our job as human beings to take care of the environment that every living thing is dependent upon. There is no "tomorrow" without this. I'm also a Mother and have had the blessings of spending time in wilderness with family. Unless I'm mistaken about basic science, every single person hearing testimony today also has at least one Mother, which means you do not exist in a vacuum, because you are ecologically interdependent. And I challenge anyone sitting in this room or hearing testimony to think of a single good reason why our children and our children's children's children's children should not have a good earth to live in.

Sometimes Mothers need to tell their children: No. I implore 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.

It is imperative that you do not let this bill pass out of committee.

In good health and gratitude for your work and the earth,  
Rachael Baskind