

Submitter: Mark Lindberg

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,

As an environmental advocate and minister in the United Church of Christ, I oppose House Bill 3103 and its amendments. This timber industry bill undermines the Western Oregon state forest habitat conservation plan and would result in more clearcuts, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage. It would also imperil key drinking water sources.

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 current and future generations. We are at a critical juncture in the future of our planet. By the year 2050, it is projected that 2-5 billion people will become climate refugees. We need our trees more than ever. Please protect them for the next generations. Do not let this bill pass out of committee.

Sincerely,

Rev. Mark A. Lindberg