

Submitter: Johanna Rayman

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

Hello, thank you for taking testimony about HB 3103.

I am troubled by this bill's proposal to establish "sustainable harvest levels" on state forestland and how this may impact our priceless old growth and second-growth forests. I recently read *Gathering Moss* by Robin Wall Kimmerer, a botanist and popular science writer. Her two essays about Oregon forests in that book were heartbreaking. They outline the grave impact that clearcuts have, and the delicate balance of these ecosystems. It is not enough to leave a few trees standing or a swath left uncut along the highway. As a native Northwesterner and a lifelong lover of nature, our forests in Oregon and Washington are deeply important to me, both emotionally and in my understanding of our ecosystem. Climate catastrophes are on the rise, and now is not the time to put our forests at risk. On the contrary, we need to increase their protections more than ever.

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

Sincerely,
Johanna Rayman