

Submitter: Neel Patel

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 am a physician in Oregon and concerned about climate change and biodiversity loss in our state. I am writing to oppose House bill 3103. This bill undermines the Western Oregon state forest habitat conservation plan, a plan that was hard fought and was a good compromise of extraction and habitat protection. This plan would result in more clearcuts, more habitat destruction, less carbon storage, and imperil drinking water sources. Our forest ecosystems are exceptional resources when they are intact.

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.

Please do not let this bill pass out of committee.

Sincerely,
Neel Patel, MD