

Submitter: Joseph Bartholomeusz

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2408

I am a student at Oregon State University, and I have lived in Benton County my entire life. My mother was a ranger for OSU's forests before I was born, and I grew up hiking in the forests that OSU is responsible for maintaining. I went to high school in Philomath, where I met many children of farmers. Farming is a very important industry in the rural parts of the Willamette Valley, and many of the farmers in the region work closely with OSU, at the very least for veterinary services. Forestry, meanwhile, is the pillar of industry upon which Philomath is built, and for decades, Oregon State University has led the way in forestry research. The university was, after all, once the Oregon Agricultural College. This bill ensures that important parts of OSU's research are not forgotten, and that the university can maintain its lead in these fields, something that I've always been proud of growing up here.