

Submitter: Liz Saufley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On  
Natural Resources

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5521

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and Levy, and Members of the Committee:

As an individual who loves the outdoors and respects nature, I know that everything is connected. Forests, salmon, critters, and humans are all connected. Without our forests, the complex web of interconnectness can be severed. I am writing to speak for the forest as it cannot speak for itself. I encourage you to continue funding the Private Forest Accord into the next biennium.

As you know, we have made great strides in supporting private landowners with the funds they need to maintain private forests. Even if it is private property, our ecosystem needs these forests and SB 5521 ensures that private landowners will maintain their land to keep this ecosystem healthy. Our stream-dwellers, such as frogs and salamanders, and the people, depend on cold, clean water.

Please fight to keep what we've worked so hard to achieve: the PFA Mitigation Grant Program, the SFISH program, Mitigation Program Funding, and the Adaptive Management Program. We need the federal funding to protect what makes our state so special.