



March 12, 2025

Chair Taylor, Co-Chair Bonham, and members of the Committee,

The Oregon Small Woodlands Association proudly serves as the voice of small woodland owners, advocating for the long-term health and resilience of Oregon's family-owned forests. We strongly support SB 1061 which would establish a basic lumber grading training program through the Oregon State University Extension Service, in consultation with the Forestry Education Council and the State Board of Forestry.

For many small woodland owners, the idea of using timber grown on their own land to build a home or structure on their property is deeply meaningful. It provides a full-circle experience, where landowners can see the direct benefits of their sustainable forestry efforts.

SB 1061 provides a path forward by offering a local training and certification program that would allow small-scale producers to grade their own lumber, making it both easier to sell locally and use in construction. The bill also goes a step further to establishing a process through the Department of Consumer and Business Services to ensure that builders and property owners can confidently use Oregon-milled lumber.

This type of statewide program is not unprecedented. In 2023, Alaska created the Alaska Lumber Grading Program (SB 87), via Alaska State University to provide a pathway for individuals to become certified to grade their own lumber. SB 1061 would mirror much of the structure of Alaska's program.

We urge your support of SB 1061.