

Submitter: Gordon Culbertson
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Labor and Business
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1061

March 13, 2025

Chair Taylor, Co-Chair Bonham and Committee members,
Support for SB 1061

We are writing today to endorse our support for SB 1061. Our family sustainably manages certified forests in Douglas and Lane Counties. We are members of the Oregon Small Woodlands Association and Oregon Tree Farm System. In 2019 we were chosen to represent Oregon as Tree Farmers of the year.

With a sense of pride we have sawn timber grown on our forest land making lumber to utilize in repair and construction of barns, sheds and shelters. This lumber was professionally sawn, meeting high standards for quality, size, dimension and grade. If it was graded and stamped it would be suitable as what would be purchased at the lumber yard.

We believe that a sensible compromise is possible to assure integrity of recognized lumber grading standards that could be inspected and certified. This should be no more complicated than training and certification of new lumber graders when a new mill is established.

Oregon's forests are a treasure for renewable and environmentally sound building materials. Each year we sell logs harvested from our forests to industrial scale mills and appreciate the relationship we share. Passage of SB 1061 with amended compromise language shouldn't be a slight. It will simply encourage the use of sustainable and local resources and enable small-scale producers to provide safe, durable and environmentally responsible building products.

We urge the passage of SB1061.

Sincerely,

Gordon Culbertson

Whitewater Forests LLC