

Submitter:	Ben Barclay
On Behalf Of:	Lincoln County OSWA
Committee:	Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB1051

Lincoln County OSWA and I personally oppose this measure for the following reasons.

Shifting the State Forester to be Governor appointed turns it into a political position. This will lead to uncertainty, less stability and consistency in forest policy and erode respect for the ODF as an agency

Weakens public trust in the State Forester

The Governor appoints the Board of Forestry. Those individuals should be trusted to work together, representing diverse perspectives on issues, to appoint the State Forester.

Removing this responsibility to appoint a qualified individual from them is to undermine their position.

This would remove accountability and oversight of the position

Importance of having experience in forestry before being the State Forester

Land management and forestry experience is critical if the individual is going to be making decisions impacting forestland owners

This decision will jeopardize credibility and respect among the forestry industry.