

Submitter: Rachel Freed

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3349

I am writing to express my strong support for HB 3349, which authorizes the State Forestry Department to take specific actions related to motor vehicles and other equipment used by the department. This legislation is crucial for enhancing the operational efficiency and effectiveness of the Forestry Department in fulfilling its vital mission to manage and protect Oregon's forests.

The ability to manage and maintain vehicles and equipment effectively is essential for the Forestry Department to respond promptly to emergencies, conduct regular maintenance, and carry out critical forest management activities. By streamlining the process for acquiring, maintaining, and disposing of this equipment, HB 3349 will enable the department to operate more efficiently and effectively, ultimately benefiting the communities and ecosystems they serve.

Additionally, the flexibility provided by this legislation will allow the State Forestry Department to adapt to changing needs and technological advancements in forestry practices. With the fast pace of innovation in equipment and techniques, ensuring that our forestry professionals have access to modern and reliable tools is essential for maintaining the health of our forests and enhancing public safety.

Furthermore, this bill will support the department's efforts in wildfire prevention and response. Having the right equipment readily available can make a significant difference in the effectiveness of firefighting efforts and in mitigating the impacts of wildfires on our communities and natural resources. By empowering the State Forestry Department to manage its equipment effectively, we are investing in a proactive approach to forest management and public safety.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to support HB 3349. Empowering the State Forestry Department to take necessary actions regarding its motor vehicles and equipment is a critical step toward enhancing forest management, improving response capabilities, and ensuring the safety and well-being of Oregonians. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.