

Submitter: James Floro

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SJR11

I support the proposed ballot measure. I work in the private timber industry and have learned from 1st hand experience how important having a well staffed and funded fire crew to help protect lives and homes. I did not grow up or get educated formally in this industry, so I started with a lot of preordained misconceptions about the forestry practice. One thing that changed my perspective was how dedicated local private forest owners and ODF really care not just about the existing stands, but the health and wellbeing of our neighbors and community members. These men and women work around the clock in adverse conditions with a chip on their shoulder. They are hard working members of our community, some of which are non paid volunteers. Many feel a duty or sense of obligation to help protect our communities which i believe is a very noble calling. Some of these folk are career wildland fire fighters, some are just concerned neighbors. Others answer the call to duty to help even if they have nothing on the lines. I believe if the state has additional funding via the lottery program, that money would be very wisely spent keeping Oregon green. The Oregon lottery has helped improve many communities across the state. I believe the funds they raise do go to good causes and i'm a firm believer in the Oregon lotteries motto- they do good things.