

Submitter: Alexis Jacobson  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3489

I urge you to reject HB 3489, which would increase taxes on the timber sector and defund the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI)—a decision that would have far-reaching impacts on students, schools, and small forestland owners across the state.

OFRI plays a vital role in Oregon's K–12 education system by providing science-based forestry education, classroom resources, and hands-on field trips. At a time when school districts are facing millions in budget shortfalls and are forced to consider cutting teaching positions, eliminating these resources would be a serious loss for our students and teachers alike in areas and programs where our students need them the most. As a spouse of a teacher in rural Oregon, we need these forestry funds for his school.

Beyond education, OFRI is an essential resource for Oregon's 75,000 small forestland owners, offering practical training and materials—like its recently updated illustrated manual—to help landowners navigate the complex new rules under the Private Forest Accord. Stripping OFRI's funding would leave these Oregonians without the support they need to adapt and succeed.

Now more than ever, we should be investing in tools that strengthen education and help landowners manage our forests sustainably—not cutting them.

Please vote no on HB 3489. Our students and small forest landowners are counting on your leadership.

Thank you for your time and attention.  
Alexis Jacobson