

Submitter: Elizabeth Fox

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3489

This bill will make big timber companies pay their fair share for forest protection.

Currently, the

largest timber companies in Oregon are paying a fraction of the cost to protect their private land from wildfires, despite making hundreds of millions in profit. Oregonians and small woodland owners are picking up the majority of the tab.

Additionally, the bill will ensure future funding for wildfire suppression. Oregon is experiencing more frequent

and devastating wildfires that are costing taxpayers millions. In 2024 alone, fighting wildfires in Oregon cost approximately \$350 million. It also will fund state programs that help prevent wildfires. One third of the revenue from the policy will go towards the Oregon State Fire Marshal for community wildfire prevention and resilience.

Finally, the bill supports increased revenue for Oregon's timber counties. One third of the revenue

will be reserved for unrestricted use for counties where timber is harvested.

Please approve this bill. Thank you for your consideration.