

Submitter:

Greg Jacob

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3489

We are long overdue to reinstate the timber severance tax. As a member of the State Forest Advisory Committee, I know passage of HB 3489 will benefit the ODF as passage will split the revenue equally into thirds: to the ODF for fire prevention and suppression; to counties with timberlands, and the Oregon State Fire Marshall. Importantly, big timber companies will pay their fair share, which is something they have not done since the 1990's. REITs have paid little in corporate income taxes on the millions of acres that are privately owned. No longer should Oregonians and small woodland owners pay a disproportionate share to protect public and private forestland. HB 3489 also includes incentives for growing trees longer, thereby reducing taxes based on that which increases carbon sequestration.