

Submitter: J Carriveau
On Behalf Of: WE NEED WOOD AND JOBS FOR HOMES
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3489

Urban legislators are attempting to pass a bill that would increase taxes on the forestry sector by 800%.

They say the money is needed to pay for wildfire, but Oregon landowners already directly pay more for wildfire than in any other state, and a diverse group of 35 stakeholders rejected this idea because it's inequitable! A bill already exists to fund wildfire – one that has bipartisan support and it intentionally doesn't include this poorly conceived, punitive idea.

Last year Oregon saw at least seven mills close, causing the loss of nearly 700 jobs. With the U.S. economy in flux, now is a terrible time to pile new taxes on an industry that economic research has demonstrated already pays more than 1.5 times the taxes of other similar Oregon businesses.

The bill also de-funds the Oregon Forest Resources Institute! OFRI funds tens of thousands of students on forestry field trips every year, creates critical K-12 forestry education curriculum and provides critical training and manuals to help forest landowners sustainably manage our forests.

Tell legislators to vote no on HB 3489!