

Submitter: Amanda Short

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3489

Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the House Committee on Revenue,

As a concerned resident of Oregon, I urge your support for House Bill 3489. By establishing a fair severance tax on timber harvest, this bill not only provides a sustainable source of funds for wildfire mitigation & suppression, but also addresses critical needs in our state and timber-dependent counties through additional funding. It ensures that the largest players (like REITs) pay their fair share while exempting smaller harvests and incentivising sustainable forestry practices, which is a common-sense tax approach.

For decades Oregon has foregone significant revenue due to outdated timber taxation policies, impacting rural communities ability to provide essential rural services like schools and public safety. At the same time, the increasing threat of wildfires demands a robust and reliable funding mechanism for suppression, prevention, and community resilience. HB 3489 directly tackles both these challenges.

Sincerely,

Amanda Short  
Bend, OR