

Submitter: Alan Journet
On Behalf Of: Self
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3489

Chair Nathanson and members of the Committee on Revenue:

Having attended the Public Hearing on HB3489, and having read much of the opposing testimony, I note with disappointment that the opponents of the bill seem not to understand the underlying driving factors that led to its development. The common theme behind the opposing testimony is "Don't tax you, don't tax me; tax the guy behind the tree!" What I kept hoping to hear was an opponent suggesting an alternative mechanism for raising the funds necessary to deal with wildfires in Oregon, but I didn't. Presumably, the opponents are content that wildfires are consuming not just Oregon's forests but also the Oregon general fund. It seems that they would prefer to see Oregon's forests incinerate than pay a dime themselves or require out-of-state forest owners to pay a dime in taxes to support the Oregon wildfire effort.