

Submitter:

Cindy Hawds

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB3489

This letter is testimony in support of HB3489. As a resident affected significantly by logging in the watersheds it is absolutely insane that the Timber Industry is not paying more to address climate change, wildfires, flooding, water loss issues, and our health as it has been proven that they are responsible for all of these issues. There is a substantive body of science that supports this. They are the number one CO2 polluter in the State, their clear cuts that create even aged tiny tree plantations are what facilitates increased fire severity that is evidenced in all of the post fire maps and analysis. We know that mature and older forests are necessary for cooling and moisture and they are making it much worse for all of us. We also know that they have broken the water cycle that used to give us much more summer flows (we are losing up to 50% for many years Jones and Perry 2017) and winter flows are worse more frequent and flashy and again up to 50% more loss rather than storage. We are all paying more in insurance already due to the threat of wildfire that they have facilitated. The public SHOULD NOT HAVE TO PAY TAXES to fight wildfires caused by the Timber industry's land management and it is patently false that the issue is effective fire suppression and fuels build up. This is easy to understand if you just ask the basic question how much of the Oregon landscape has been logged up to this point in time? Versus, the new lie of needing to log/thin/prescribe burn because the forests have been languishing with no "management". How much old/mature forest is left? These forests are documented to be key to reducing fire severity and spread. Last, the industry is already causing every household more than the benefit they receive (Climate Cost at 50T \$5,000 versus value of a log truck \$4,000 Ernie Nieme NR Economist). Climate cost of logging is expected to rise to 340 tons (BLM lands) and this alone will cost each household \$34,000. They should pay the cost of their actions on the rest of us.

Cindy Haws