

Adam Miller
PO Box 951
Drain, OR 97435

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Oregon State Legislature
House Committee on Review
RE: HB 3489

Dear Committee Members and Representatives:

I support the passage of HB 3489 because timber harvests would be taxed based on value, rather than log volume. For three decades, landowners have been taxed according to the quantity of logs harvested from their properties. Why are real estate investment trusts allowed to get a free ride, without paying their fair share for forest firefighting and other state services because they're not subject to corporate taxes?

I support the imposition of a "severance tax" ranging from 2% to 6% of the value of harvested logs, with rates increasing according to the size of the landowner's forest property. We need to increase harvest taxes on Oregon forestland owners by at least 500% and more likely by 800%, roughly doubling the overall taxes paid by the state's forestry and wood products sector.

Let's pass this bill and make it happen.

Sincerely,
Adam Miller