

Submitter: Gordon and Gail Culbertson
On Behalf Of: Whitewater Forests LLC
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1061

Re: Support SB 1061 A

Co-Chairs Helm, Owens, Vice Chair McDonald and Committee Members,

We appreciate the opportunity to express our support for SB 1061 A.

Our family owns forestland in Douglas and Lane County, Oregon certified under the high standards of the Oregon and American Tree Farm System. We sustainably manage our lands for wood, water, recreation and wildlife.

On several occasions we have engaged small-scale mill operators to cut mature Douglas fir and Western red cedar logs harvested from our forests. These logs were sawn with professional skill producing high quality, durable, aesthetically beautiful and reliable lumber that was used for building non-occupied structures. While these logs are incidental as most are sold commercially it provides a unique and valuable family experience, supporting our forestry heritage. Three generations worked together to harvest, mill and build with our own wood.

SB 1061 A is important legislation, creating a path for grading and certification of lumber produced in small-scale sawmills. It allows family forest owners to utilize wood from their forests in building family homes.

SB 1061 A is a carefully crafted compromise that addresses concerns about maintaining high lumber quality standards, qualifications for training, liability concerns, chain of custody documenting wood source and use. In cooperation with OSU Forestry and Extension this will be a valuable program.

We encourage your support and passage of SB 1061 A. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gordon and Gail Culbertson
Whitewater Forests LLC
Springfield, Oregon