

Submitter: David Rankin  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural  
Resources, and Water  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1061

Co-Chairs Helm, Owen and Hartman, members of the committee.

Greetings. I am David Rankin. I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 1061.

Rankin Woodlands LLC is located in western Lane County along the South Slough of the Siuslaw River. Our forestland is 200 acres in size. It is forested by a typical coastal mix of species such as Douglas Fir, Western Hemlock, Sitka Spruce, Western Red Cedar and Red Alder. My wife Dianne and I have lived here for 50 years and along the way raised our two sons. We were honored to be chosen as Oregon Tree Farmers of the Year in 2016 by the Oregon Tree Farm Association. We belong to and are active in the Oregon Small Woodland Association.

One of the things we do is mill lumber products from purposefully harvested or windfall timber. We do this with a band saw mill and a portable circular saw type mill. What we produce is generally used for our own personal projects.

One of our more productive endeavors has been the manufacture of 6 by 6 timbers usually from Sitka Spruce and Western Hemlock. These species take on pressure treatment to allow soil contact very nicely. Most of the timbers produced have been landscape timbers and timbers used in retaining walls. A market not open to us is that of poles for pole barn construction. These poles need to be graded and should be. However, for us to produce these timbers, get them graded in sufficient quantity to call in a transient grader, transport them to the treatment plant, transport them after treatment, store and market them is not feasible. The ability to grade these timbers at our mill would make this process much more attractive.

The concept of allowing lumber produced by personal sawmills in the construction of either a single family or double family dwelling is probably the most significant feature of this proposed measure. The ability to produce lumber from your own timber is very attractive. Not only does this give the owner personal satisfaction it would allow the use of material that might not be possible to transport to an established mill due to distance of the haul or refusal by the mill to purchase small quantities.

I heartily support the concept in SB 1061. It is a step in the right direction. Please support this measure and make it possible for OSU Extension to get the process moving by establishing lumber grading courses.

Thank you for your support and the opportunity to present this testimony.

Sincerely,  
David. Rankin