

Dear Chair Nathanson and Members of the House Revenue Committee,

We are writing to you in support of HB485A.

We are small woodland owners who manage our 345 acres of forest land in four parcels located in Lane, Lincoln, and Benton Counties. We are passionate about keeping Oregon's forests sustainable. Our four adult children, Sam, Mike, Joe, and Francesca, are likewise passionate, and our three grandchildren, Allison, Anthony, and Alex, who are just finishing college, are as well. We all work together to help our forests be healthy. We are in our 80s, so the care of these acres will pass to the rest of the family before long. The Natural Resource Estate Tax Exemption is important to us because it will allow our family to go on managing the forest after we are gone without the necessity of early harvesting and/or selling to pay the inheritance taxes.

We are Co-Chairs of the Oregon Tree Farm System's Certification Working Group and devote a great deal of time certifying our members' tree farms as meeting the International Standards of Sustainability. Please know that HB 485 A is very important to our Oregon-wide membership as they work to keep Oregon's forest land as forest.

We believe strongly that the active management of Oregon's forest land benefits all Oregonians. HB485A is carefully written to ensure that forestland owned by small forest landowners will continue to be well-managed over the next generations. We urge you to support HB 485A.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Steve Cafferata*

*Wylda Cafferata*