

Submitter:

Lloyd Vivola

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to House Bill 4105 and its amendments.

If allowed to become law, HB 4105 would undermine a broad best health scenario for Oregon state forests by submitting to the single-interest metrics of the timber industry. Since it runs against the grain of what most Oregonians consider sound ecological policy, its passage will undoubtedly lead to costly law suits at a time when taxpayers and state coffers need nothing of the sort.

I am writing as a longtime watershed restoration volunteer with the Johnson Creek Watershed Council and as a wildlife surveyor with Cascadia Wild, an organization that shares data with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. As an engaged stakeholder citizen, I also partook in development of Oregon's Habitat Conservation Plan, a forward-looking policy design that will struggle to meet its prescribed, science-based goals without enhanced protection for Oregon's forests, water and wildlife habitat.

Accordingly, I urge you to support state forest policy that ensures carbon storage, enhanced good health of aquatic resources like our salmon, and guards against ill-advised expansion of clear-cut logging.

Start by keeping HB 4105 from being approved by committee.

Thanks you for your continued service and receiving public comments.