

Submitter: Dylan Plummer

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, Vice Chair McDonald, and Members of the
Committee,

I am a Eugene resident and regularly use Oregon's state forests as an avid hiker,
angler and camper.

I oppose House Bill 4105. This timber industry bill prioritizes logging over all other
forest values on state forests. It undermines the state forest Habitat Conservation
Plan and would lead to more clearcuts, more industry lawsuits, less habitat for fish
and wildlife, and less carbon storage on state public forests.

The bill is unnecessary. The Department of Forestry already has processes in place
to establish timber harvest goals and regularly meets or exceeds those goals, often
at the expense of water quality, imperiled species, and carbon storage.

The bill is expensive. It would require costly rulemaking and lead to non-stop litigation
the state would have to defend against at taxpayer expense. The bill creates a new,
special right for the timber industry to sue the Department of Forestry to force more
logging on state forests. The state can't afford unneeded legislation with an
enormous fiscal impact.

I urge you to oppose this bill. Instead, I encourage this committee to focus on
measures that would increase carbon storage on our state forests and safeguard
public state forests and waterways for current and future generations.

Please don't let this bill pass out of committee.