

Submitter: Irina Schabram

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

I am writing as a concerned Oregonian to voice my strong opposition to House Bill 4105. This legislation represents a significant threat to the health of our state forestlands and the communities that depend on them. I oppose this bill for three primary reasons:

1) Threat to Drinking Water and Habitat: HB 4105 seeks to prioritize timber harvest levels above all other forest values. This shift endangers the watersheds that provide clean drinking water to over 500,000 Oregonians and risks the integrity of the state forest Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).

2) Unprecedented Litigation Risks: By granting the timber industry a special right to sue the State Forester over harvest levels, this bill invites endless, costly litigation. Oregon taxpayers should not be forced to foot the bill for the industry's attempts to dictate public land management through the courts.

3) Undermining Balanced Management: Our state forests belong to the public. They should be managed for a balance of recreation, carbon sequestration, and wildlife protection—not converted into industrial timber farms through mandatory logging quotas.

For the protection of our water, our wildlife, and our public funds, I urge you to reject HB 4105.

Sincerely,
Irina Schabram
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