

Submitter: Ken Bonetti

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

Members of the Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water:

My name is Ken Bonetti from North Bend. I am writing to urge you to vote no on HB4105. This bill would encourage more clear cutting of Oregon's dwindling forest resources further diminishing the forest legacy that should instead be left for future generations. I live in an area covered with clear cut sections. These forests never come back or are converted into monoculture plantations unsuitable for wildlife habitat. Clear cuts cause soil erosion, water pollution, and air pollution when the slash piles are burned. All this exacerbates carbon emissions at a time we should be drastically reducing those.

Automation has greatly reduced the employment potential of clear cut logging. Those who disproportionately gain are the corporations and their wealthy stockholders who profit from the mining of forest lands. Much of the cut wood is exported to Asia, not even retained for home use. So why ruin what remains of our forests to benefit the few at the expense of the many? At is time in our natural history this is not the kind of legacy we should leave behind us. Rather than destroying what little of our precious forests we have left why not instead put our efforts toward conservation and restoration, which are labor-intensive endeavors that can create good jobs and benefit the many, improve the quality of our public lands and preserve habitat for wildlife?

Again, I urge you to vote "No" to more clear cuts as encouraged by HB4105.

Sincerely,
Ken Bonetti, North Bend