

Submitter: Annemarie Hoffman
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or HB4105
Topic:

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens and Members of the Committee,
One of the things I love most about Oregon is our forests. As an artist, so much of the community I create with and draw inspiration from exists because of the beauty and integrity of these landscapes. It's painful to be in a constant fight to protect the lands we still have. I respect that timber plays an important role in our state, but there must be balance. We cannot allow profits to outweigh life, water, wildlife, and the long-term health of our ecosystems. Protections exist for a reason, and weakening them puts the whole picture of the Pacific Northwest at risk.

I oppose House Bill 4105.

This timber industry bill undermines the state forest Habitat Conservation Plan and would result in more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, more clearcuts and pesticide spraying that harm drinking water, and less carbon storage.

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

Sincerely,

Annemarie Hoffman