



To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
From: Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN)
Re: Testimony in opposition to HB 4105
Date: February 10, 2026

Dear Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, and members of the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

I am writing on behalf of the Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network (COIN) to express our opposition to HB 4105. COIN is a coalition of over 75 local Indivisible groups, spanning all regions of Oregon, that cooperate and amplify their efforts to advance federal and State legislation and engage with elected officials to promote progressive causes that benefit all Oregonians.

We strongly oppose HB 4105. Currently, management of State Forests requires a balance of multiple values, including clean water, water storage, fish and wildlife, and recreation. This bill would significantly change the way State Forests are managed, as it would require the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to establish a harvest level that prioritizes timber harvest over other values, by rule. HB 4105 undermines all other plans, policies or directives issued by the State Forester or the Board of Forestry. Much of the language in the bill is unrealistically prescriptive, and some stated expectations appear to be arbitrary and capricious.

At best, this bill is unnecessary. The State Forester already sets 10-year harvest level goals, though not by rule, and is subject to all other values, policies and plans. The ODF issues annual progress reports on these harvest levels and has a solid track record of meeting harvest goals.

The role of the legislature should not be to undermine the Vision, Mission, and Values of the Oregon Department of Forestry. Forests are important for many reasons other than timber. This bill would increase industrial clearcut logging on Oregon's public lands, thereby superseding balanced management on State Forests.

This bill would establish a new right to sue the ODF over State Forest timber harvest plans and obtain court orders to compel more clearcuts on public land; a rule that is both menacing and litigious.

The bill would limit the State Forester's and the Board of Forestry's ability to protect public resources, undermining specific requirements for responsible management of Oregon State Forests. ODF currently follows Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) guidelines while awaiting final approval by federal agencies. This bill entails loopholes such that ODF may not follow HCP

guidelines. This is prime territory for litigation from all sides. Given the Trump Administration's cuts to federal agencies, final approval could be delayed for years. This bill gives no assurance that the HCP would be accommodated and even opens the door to non-compliance with federal law. Additionally, in 2021, the Board of Forestry adopted a Climate Change and Carbon Plan for State Forests to establish Oregon as a national leader in climate-smart forestry, requiring establishment of 10-year harvest levels that pre-empts the Climate Plan. This bill would prevent the ODF from implementing its own Climate Plan.

This bill would be an expensive waste of taxpayers' and ODF time and money. It is ripe for multitudes of lawsuits and years of litigation; a cost that would have to be paid with State revenue: public tax dollars.

Furthermore, we are confounded by the fact that Rep Helms and Rep Owens are sponsoring HB 4105 while also sponsoring HB 4134. Do they not realize the number of imperiled species that rely on suitable habitats on Oregon's State Forest lands? Whether this was horse-trading or naivete, the paired sponsorship of these two bills is like filling a bucket with water while poking holes in the bottom of it.

In summary, HB 4105 is an unnecessary and litigation-rich bill. Sustainable harvest levels are already required by law. The State Forester already sets 10-year harvest level goals, though not by rule, that are subject to all other values, policies and plans. Please vote NO or prepare to own the responsibility of destroyed forests, and years of legal challenges and wasted tax dollars.

Thank you,
Monica Tomosy,

On behalf of,
Consolidated Oregon Indivisible Network