

Submitter: Kerry Moore

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

I oppose House Bill 4105 and its amendments. We don't need any more clear cutting in this state. It is damaging to our streams, to soil preservation, to the fish and animals, and to the beauty of our state.

Tourists and Oregon residents alike visit our forests for their beauty and natural richness. No one wants to visit a site which has been butchered through clear cutting. Our state forests are worth more standing — it is unacceptable to prioritize timber harvest over all the other values these forests offer .

Anyone who has hiked, climbed, camped, swum, or boated on Oregon public lands knows how precious they are. This bill would result in more lawsuits and could cost the state millions of dollars.

This bill would also result in more clearcuts and less habitat for vulnerable fish and wildlife. It would lead to less mature and old-growth forests, and less carbon storage on the landscape at a time when climate change is already endangering our trees. As a landowner, I am seeing profound damage to the Douglas firs on our property, and increased insect damage due to drought. This bill does not represent the public lands vision I want my elected leaders to support.

I urge you to oppose this bill. Instead, I encourage this committee to focus on measures that would protect Oregon legacy forests, safeguard fish and wildlife, and protect communities drinking water for our children and future generations.

Please oppose this bill and ensure it does not pass out of committee.

Sincerely,

Kerry Moore
The Dalles