

My name is Paulette Bierzychudek and I am an Oregon resident from House district 41. I write to offer my strong opposition to HB 4105, which mandates the establishment of proscribed “sustainable” harvest levels on state forestland.

Our forests are one of the most important tools we have for reversing decades of CO2 enrichment. Proper forest management is one of our best hopes for repairing our human-altered climate, with its associated climatic extremes and increased wildfire activity.

HB 4105 does not define “sustainable,” which leaves open the possibility that the mandated harvest levels will not guarantee a reliable quantity and quality of water, a stable climate, or a forest that provides long-term support of wildlife and opportunities for recreation.

I oppose this bill because I am an Oregonian committed to assuring that generations of Oregonians to come will enjoy a healthy, safe, and stable environment. We owe them this legacy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.