

Submitter: Lauren Hobson

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

I am submitting testimony to oppose this bill (HB 4105) and its amendments. As a fourth-generation Oregonian, I have loved the outdoors my entire life and I'm appalled that my state government would consider supporting a bill that would allow clearcutting in the forests that have raised me. Putting the interests of the timber industry over our need for clean rivers, places for wild animals to live, and the outdoor recreation that define our state is wrong. Please do not support this bill. It is unacceptable to use our forests as a cash grab; our trees are worth infinitely more when they're standing.

My husband and I hike avidly across the state, often venturing far and wide in our state forests on our explorations. I am so proud of the place we call home, and proud of Oregon's legacy of conservation. I am dismayed to see that this committee isn't focus on the measures that would protect the forests we are blessed with: to prioritize our trees, protect fish and wildlife, and ensure drinking water for today and tomorrow's generations.

This kind of bill also seems like the type that will just cost the state money in lawsuits. Please, prioritize the interests of the people and wildlife of our state by opposing this bill. I strongly urge you to not pass this bill out of committee.

With hope for a safe future for our trees,

Lauren