

Submitter: Julia Garretson
On Behalf Of: all life
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

On behalf of all life I urge the opposition of this bill, please do not let it pass out of committee.

The forest is my backyard. It is already changing. The logging trucks drive by so fast and are so loud, this year there have been more of them. The logging hurts the forest floor and the mycelium are impacted and produce less mushrooms. This month we have heard coyotes in my narrow road valley, this is new and I believe that cutting in my area has meant the movement of the coyotes. There are rare freshwater muscels in my stream, at the headwaters that get affected by silt run off when there is cutting up the hill.

I tell you all this to reinforce personally the effects of increased cutting of the forest. I want to be able to take my family, friends, and guests into the woods and show them the wonders of our state. I want all of us to be able to breathe the air, and see the water running out of the hills. I want there to be moss on the older trees, bird song in the woods, a shade so deep in the summer that you want a sweater under the trees, a prism of green all around.

This bill does not represent the public land vision that I want my elected officials to support. It is unfair to prioritize timber harvest over the health of all life.

Sincerely,
Julia Garretson