

Submitter: Ellisen Drayton

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

I oppose HB 4105 because it would shift how our state forests are managed by prioritizing timber harvest above other important values like clean water, wildlife habitat, recreation, and carbon storage. Currently, Oregon's forest plans balance multiple public interests, but this bill would require the Oregon Department of Forestry to set harvest levels by rule with a strong focus on logging, even if that undermines environmental protections and long-term sustainability. It could also create a special right for the timber industry to sue the state to force increased logging, which would cost taxpayers and weaken public oversight. Rather than weakening protections, we should be investing in forest health, carbon sequestration, and safeguarding watersheds and habitat for future generations.