

Submitter: Louisa De Heer
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or HB4105
Topic:

Increasing logging in our forests is akin to another nail in the coffin for our watersheds and our climate.

We need to push instead for logging companies to align with climate reality: adjust their species mix to be resilient in what is to come, fiercely protect intact and healthy forests from cutting forever, and improve thinning and fire management in the dense tree farms .

The bill is expensive. It would require costly rulemaking and lead to non-stop litigation the state would have to defend against at taxpayer expense. The bill creates a new, special right for the timber industry to sue the Department of Forestry to force more logging on state forests. The state can't afford unneeded legislation with an enormous fiscal impact and negative outcomes.

Increasing logging means more roads, more species losses, and less water retention when we need all the resilience practices we know in place and fast.

It is 2026 and climate change is here. We the people claim our power to protect our communities; we have not ceded that to private interests.

Stop this bill in committee. Thank you.