

Submitter: Stephen Hocker

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens and Members of the Committee,

I oppose House Bill 4105.

We need to protect our forests for our current generation of Oregonians and for future generations. There is no shortage of timber or wood products. Stop the clear cutting, stop the old growth harvesting and legislate timber land owners to replant vacant parcels with fast growing trees. The timber industry has gotten away with years of lax safeguards and should be held accountable. We are stewards of the land, there is no need to over harvest or clearcut any Oregon forests.

This timber industry bill undermines the state forest Habitat Conservation Plan and would result in more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, more clearcuts and pesticide spraying that harm drinking water, and less carbon storage.

I urge you to oppose this bill. Instead, I encourage this committee to focus on measures that would increase carbon storage in our state forests and safeguard our public resources for our children and future generations.

Sincerely,
Steve, Elliot, Noah & Nathan Hocker
Oregonians since 1990.