

Submitter: Benton Elliott

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

I write in opposition to HB 4105 which prioritizes logging over climate resilience and will harm Oregon's rural communities the most during worsening fire seasons and other climate challenges. It shifts the focus of forest management away from balance and adaptability. This bill prioritizes logging and timber production, without considering climate resilience strategies or habitat protection. Climate risks are not going away. Oregon forests provide carbon sequestration and are necessary for climate resilience; increased logging increases wildfire risk, drought, and extreme weather. Carbon storage and climate change must be prioritized. This bill weakens Oregon's ability to meet climate commitments and devalues the role of forests in climate management. When forests are protected, and climate resilience is prioritized, Oregon communities thrive. While logging is a critical sector of Oregon's economy, it should not come at the expense of rural communities who are already facing extreme challenges due to climate change. Thank you for opposing this measure.