

Submitter: Felice Kelly

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

Dear members of the committee,

I frequently visit the state forests to hike, run, fish, or just enjoy the landscape. This bill will prioritize logging above all of these other uses and neuter the idea of managing the land for greatest permanent value. The state forester already has a lot of flexibility to manage the state forest, and that flexibility should be maintained. In addition, this bill invites conflict with the NOAA-submitted habitat conservation plan. If that plan fails to go into effect then the management of the state forest will quickly get tied up in litigation, benefiting no one. This bill purports to solve a problem that doesn't exist, and actually creates a host of new problems.