

Submitter: Joel Lindstrom

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

I'm opposed to HB 4105 as it's written.

Having taught high school science in Cottage Grove, Oregon for 25 years, I know firsthand the importance of timber jobs to people who live in rural areas. Living in a wood frame house and having done building projects, I know the importance of timber to creating housing. Being a scientist, I know the high carbon footprint of concrete in construction projects and the sequestration of CO2 that timber frame buildings can provide. And I also know the positive impact that living forests have on our environment: biodiversity, cooling, habitat, clean water.

My objection to the bill is that it's focus is on determining the amount of available forest land with the only instructions given to the State Forester being establishing a sustainable harvest level. Please rewrite the bill to include instructions to the State Forester to take into account the impact of living forests on environmental quality and the value that living forests have on the population of Oregon.