



To: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
900 Court Street NE Salem, OR

Date: February 11th, 2026

Sub: Testimony in opposition to HB 4105

To: Co-chairs Helm and Owens, and members of the committee,

Good afternoon Co-Chair Helm and Owens, Vice Chair McDonald and Members of the Committee:

For the record, my name is Eliza Walton. I am the coalition director at OLCV and I help coordinate the Oregon Conservation Network or OCN which is a network of not-for-profit organizations throughout Oregon, united to advocate for pro-conservation legislation and to fight policies that threaten our state's natural legacy.

I am here today on the behalf of the Oregon Conservation Network to ask you to oppose HB 4105, including the -1 and not pass this bill out of committee. OCN has designated this bill as a Major Threat to a healthy Oregon for the following reasons:

1. HB 4105 would require the state forester to mandate timber harvest levels through rulemaking on state forest lands. The state forester would only be required to consider, and not comply with, the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan or other laws and policies. (Section 1, Subsection 4) This would fundamentally change how state forests are managed, prioritizing timber harvest over other important values, such as habitat protection for endangered species, recreation and climate change mitigation.
2. The bill is unnecessary. The Oregon Department of Forestry already sets timber harvest levels through a public process and issues annual reports on its progress. Last year, the ODF reported that it has exceeded timber harvest objectives over the past ten years.
3. The bill would result in more costly mitigation at a time when we can least afford it. In section 3, Subsection 2, it would deny access to the courts to all Oregonians except recipients of revenue from state forests. This is not only inconsistent with the requirement to manage state forest for the "greatest permanent value" for all Oregonians in ORS 530.050 and OAR 629.035.020, it may be in conflict with the equal protection clause of Oregon's Constitution.

For these reasons, Oregon Conservation Network requests that you oppose this bill or, at a minimum, keep it from advancing out of committee.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eliza Walker".

Coalition Director
Oregon Conservation Network
Oregon League of Conservation Voters
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