

Submitter: Carrie Corson

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair McDonald and Committee Members,

I am writing today to express my opposition to HB 4105-relating to reliable forest management outcomes.

I believe this bill undermines current policy and I urge your support in opposing this legislation.

Currently, management of state forests requires a balance of multiple values, including habitat, clean water, fish and wildlife, and recreation. This act would change the way state forests are managed. It tells the State Forester to make harvest levels for cutting timber on state forestland. It directs the State Forester to determine the available state forestland, establish sustainable harvest levels for harvesting timber on state forestland and manage available state forestland; would require the Department of Forestry (ODF) to establish a harvest level by rule that prioritizes timber harvest over other values. This legislation undermines all other plans, policies or directives made by the Board of Forestry, including the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan and the Climate Change and Carbon Plan. It would establish a new right to sue the ODF over state forest timber harvest plans and obtain court orders to compel more clear-cuts on public land. Finally, it allows certain persons to seek a court order if the State Forester fails to establish sustainable harvest levels or manage available state forestland.

Again, I urge you to oppose this bill.

Respectfully,
Carrie A. Corson
Waldport