

To the Honorable Chairman Brad Witt

April 14th, 2013

And members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Honorable Representatives;

I strongly support the House Bill 2841.

The small scale mining industry in Oregon needs to be represented by you. I need your understanding and support for the following reasons;

I have been a small scale miner for over 10 years and enjoy what it does and represents to most Oregonians, from simply being able to get out into our woods and prospect with pan and shovel, to being able to high-bank and dredge our rivers. Almost all small scale miners follow the "rules". Don't punish all for what a very few do because of their greed and contempt for rules.

I, along with two fellow miners, own a small manufacturing company that builds and sells an environmentally friendly piece of equipment, sold worldwide on the web. We are retired and earning needed dollars to off-set income sorely needed in today's economy. By keeping Oregon small scale miners off their claims, you will hurt the very people that are providing jobs and in turn, tax funds to you.

By keeping small scale miners at their claims, you not only help the state, but each county that has a mining district by the purchases for fuel, lodging, the food industry, hardware and equipment suppliers. Miners bring dollars to local economies and help businesses survive these difficult times. Please don't hobble the economy further by passing laws that hurt the very industries that have made Oregon strong. We have enough Federal, State and Agency rules to regulate our industry. Help us be strong and bring livability back to Oregonians.

The environmentalists want to shut down access to all things outside our city limits. Oregon was not built by building cities, but by harvesting the bounty of its resources. The rules, regulations and laws are in place to regulate our industries – let's get Oregonians back to work and build a strong economy on mining, manufacturing, timber, farming and ranching. All play a key role in Oregon's future. Without industry, we are fast becoming a welfare state. Do not take us down that path. Provide sensible laws and regulations so that Oregonians can earn their way in live and provide the jobs needed to sustain Oregon and her children's, children.

David Chiara

6235 North Detroit Ave.

Portland, Or 97217

503-285-8553 dave@thegoldlab.com