

ATTN: Chair Brad Witt, and members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee,

Greetings:

I am a long time Oregon resident and small-scale, recreational miner and I strongly support House Bill 2841.

HB2841 will bring some common sense to the process of making rules that affect recreational and small scale miners Oregon.

I am a retired 55 year old with 4 grandkids whom have grown up with recreational mining as an important part of their education as well as their summer recreation. Our mining activities have kept my grandkids physically active and has them interested in learning more about the history not only of mining here in Oregon but also discovering everything leading to the settlement of the State.

We ALWAYS leave our mining sites in FAR better shape than when we arrived.

If you want to clean up the outdoor environment perhaps limitations on fishermen and quads would be more effective than harassing small-scale miners. 99% of the damage to the waterways, campsites, and forest generally that we have come across are caused by either anglers or quads. Seriously, we bring back at least 3 huge trash bags of garbage generated by anglers and quad riders for each bag of trash that we generate while mining.

Anyway, since there seems to be so little of what we used to call "common sense" in politics these days I doubt that my opinion matters much but I do vote and we miners are getting better organized all of the time so maybe we can make a difference at the polls at some point. It seems to me that having the people affected by the laws passed involved in the process of creating those very laws is a "common sense" measure.

To reiterate my position on this HB2841, I STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL.

Thank you,

David

David West
POB 1012
Forest Grove, OR 97116
503-746-6785
HuntingGold@Live.Com