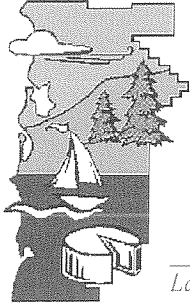


Tillamook County



Land of Cheese, Trees and Ocean Breeze

Board of Commissioners
Mark Labhart, Bill Baertlein, Tim Josi
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Tillamook, Oregon 97141
Phone 503-842-3403
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TTY Oregon Relay Service

February 26, 2013

Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Chair
Senate Environment and
Natural Resources Committee
900 Court Street NE, S-407
Salem OR 97301

RE: Senate House Bill 401

Dear Senator Dingfelder:

The Tillamook County Board of Commissioners wishes to express our unanimous concern and opposition to Senate Bill 401. As you are aware the Association of Oregon Counties also is in opposition to Senate Bill 401.

We have seven major rivers in Tillamook County with the Nestucca River already receiving the designation as a State Scenic Waterway. We believe strongly that our rivers in Tillamook County are already receiving significant protection under existing state and federal regulations. Adding yet another layer of government regulations will do no more than to upset private property owners who already feel their property adjacent to these rivers is regulated enough through state and federal rules.

As you are aware many of the 30 proposed rivers in the Bill flow through federal and state property that already provides significant protection to these waterways. Private property owners in our county already feel the burden of regulatory oversight from the Department of Agriculture, Department of State Lands, Department of Forestry, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Land Conservation & Development and County Land Use regulations for their lands adjacent to rivers. Adding yet another layer of regulatory oversight and permissions from State Parks will continue to disenfranchise private property owner rights and the ability of these families to manage their property for uses so designated.

Our rural economies provide the food for many urban citizens. Continued erosion of private property rights and implementation of unneeded rules and regulations will force higher food prices, reduce jobs and negatively affect the rural quality of life we all cherish.

Senator Jackie Dingfelder, Chair
Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee
February 26, 2013
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We urge you and the Committee to drop SB 401 from consideration.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR
TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON



Mark Labhart, Chairperson



Bill Baertlein, Vice Chairperson



Tim Josi, Commissioner