

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	9 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Barton, Cameron, Garrett, Hicks, Krieger, Olson, Tomei, Williamson, Barker
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Mike Schmidt, Counsel
Meeting Dates:	3/4, 4/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates crime of interference with state forestland management punishable up to a Class A misdemeanor for the first conviction. Second conviction of crime of interference with state forestland management is punishable by a Class C felony with a presumptive 13 month prison sentence. Does not apply to communicative behavior unless the location of it obstructs all or part of the forest management practice. Exempts persons engaged in behavior to which they are entitled under the terms of an employment contract.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Free speech is prized in Oregon, however there should be manner and place restrictions that are not based on the content, but upon the obstruction caused to legitimate forestry management

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Makes clear that communicative behavior is not criminalized unless the location of it obstructs all or part of the forest management practice. Also, creates an exemption to the application of this crime to persons engaged in behavior that they are entitled to do under the terms of their employment contract. Makes the first conviction an A misdemeanor (eligible for violation conviction by the court), and second conviction a C felony with minimum of 13 months prison.

BACKGROUND: Protestors harass forest management companies by engaging in conduct that prevents the lawful management of forests. This bill would seek to deter and punish protestors that interfere with lawful forest management practices.