



February 13, 2014

Senate Committee on Rural Communities and Economic
Development
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Please Vote "NO" SB1575

Dear Chair Roblan and Committee Members:

Our organization and its individual members are opposed to the current version of SB1575; Utilizing raw logs in resource zones.

Friends of Marion County is a 501(c)3 farmland protection organization founded in 1998. Our mission is to protect farm and forestland, parks, and open space.

Friends of Marion County oppose SB1575. It's important that these forestlands are protected from urban development. Harvesting logs from timberlands does not equate to the processing and conversion of logs to a finished product. The process of conversion of logs to a finished product is an industrial use and should not be undertaken on forestlands. We must not allow the use of toxic chemicals in a forest zone near streams and wildlife areas. Toxics can be released into the environment quite easily. Consider the recent discharge of the coal treatment chemical 4-methylcyclohexane methanol (MCHM) in West Virginia that poisoned drinking water upstream of a drinking water plant affecting the major Ohio city of Cincinnati.

SB1575 permits the "...treating..of raw logs into an end-use product". There is an array of wood treatment chemicals used to process raw wood. Some of those include pressure treatment chemicals which prevent insect and fungal destruction of the wood; i.e. Chromated Copper Arsenate, Alkaline Copper Quat, Micronized Copper Quat, Copper Azole, and Sodium Borates, creosote, Penta, and others. All of these chemicals are highly toxic to fish, wildlife, and humans.

Again, we want to emphasize our opposition to SB1575.

Thanks for listening.
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