

**PRELIMINARY** STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

House Committee on Rural Communities, Land Use and Water

**REVENUE: No revenue impact****FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued****SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL: None****Action:****Vote:**

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

**Prepared By:** Dan Roper, Administrator**Meeting Dates:** 3/3

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes counties to establish programs for forest products grown on nonforest lands to be commercially produced and marketed through forest product cooperatives. Requires State Forester to provide oversight of forestry cooperatives, which may include establishing procedures, adopting rules, and taking actions necessary to ensure policies of state are being fulfilled. Exempts forest cooperative activities conducted in accordance with state rules from antitrust laws. Prevents local governments from enforcing ordinances to require or prohibit removal of tree enrolled in forestry product cooperative project with exceptions. Limits forestry product cooperatives to no more than one per county.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:****EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

**BACKGROUND:** ORS Chapter 321 defines forestland as land that is being held or used for the predominant purpose of growing and harvesting trees of a marketable species and has been designated as forestland or land for which the highest and best use is the growing and harvesting of such trees. Nonforest lands include all other lands. House Bill 2985 would authorize counties to establish programs for forest products grown on nonforest lands to be commercially produced and marketed through forest product cooperatives and require the State Forester to provide oversight of such programs.