



# Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association

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March 9, 2015

To: Oregon Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,  
Senator Chris Edwards, Chair

From: Bryan Ostlund, Executive Director

Re: **Support for Senate Bill 256 - Christmas Tree Licensing Provisions**

On behalf of the Pacific Northwest Christmas Tree Association and more than 750 Christmas tree producers in Oregon, we encourage the support of SB 256.

Since its inception in 1986 Oregon's Christmas tree licensing program has proven to be a valuable tool to help address pest and disease issues that would have certainly closed valuable national and international markets to Christmas trees produced in this State.

Managed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture, this program is entirely fee driven and operated under the direction of an Advisory Board comprised of industry producers. This Board unanimously voted to support the increase of the fee cap as detailed in SB 256.

Oregon continues to be the largest supplier of Christmas trees in the U.S. and is recognized as the center of innovation by producers around the world.

Thank you for your consideration and support.