

My name is Gilbert Shibley, I live on and manage 420 acres of family forestland in Clackamas County. I am one of 13 owners of those acres and one of about 140,000 owners of family-sized forestlands in Oregon. I am opposed to HB 3481. It would impose an unfair tax on me and my family to fund state services that are currently funded or that provide no value to my family and me. It looks to me like a bill full of political bargains or strategies, not meaningful coordination of private costs and public benefits.

What is the logic, of having \$3/MBF more go to the general fund when I already pay taxes to the general fund from the income earned by my forest? Or why should wood producers like our family business fund a tax credit for Biomass Collectors, another kind of business?

I already pay into the Oregon Forestland Protection Fund through property taxes and harvest taxes. I believe current funding mechanisms provide that the Oregon Forestland Protection Fund will be adequately funded. Why tax me again for the same thing?

By what logic should tree growers be made to pay into the Residential Solid Fuel Heating Fund or the Watershed Conservation Grant Fund?

If it would cost 6% of revenue from this bill for the agencies to collect it are you sure it is worth it?

Responsibly tending a forestland requires a huge effort over a long time that relies on the revenues earned in that active forest management. We invest starting in year one with planted seedlings. We invest for another 50 – 80 years before a final harvest's income. Why would the state need to, or the sponsor of this bill want to, take another \$80 to \$100 per load of logs away from forestland owners when those funds are needed to sustain forests as forests each year with an eye toward an uncertain future?

This bill deserves your careful consideration. I hope you will then agree with me that it does not merit going beyond this committee. Thank you for hearing my views.

Gilbert A. Shibley  
24750 S Wallens Rd.  
Estacada, OR 97023