



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Forestry

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HONORING A CENTURY OF SERVICE

Honorable Brian Boquist, Chair
Senate Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness
Room S 311, State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Senate Bill 116 – Relating to military special access programs.

Dear Chair Boquist and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Forestry appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 116 and does not have a position on this bill.

The Oregon Department of Forestry has a statutory mandate to manage State Forests to achieve the *greatest permanent value of those lands to the state* and to that end these lands are managed to provide a range of economic, social, and environmental benefits. An important aspect of those benefits is to provide recreational opportunities on state forestlands.

The Department of Forestry is able to work with the Department of Parks and Recreation to expand their existing Special Access Pass program to include camping on State Forests. Implementing this program would be consistent with the mission and vision of the Department and would enhance and contribute to the social benefits provided by state forests.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments on Senate Bill 116 on behalf of the Oregon Department of Forestry

Sincerely,

Liz Dent, Chief.
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c: Peter Daugherty, State Forester
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