

Chair and Committee Members,

My family has tree farmed for 52 years in the central Oregon coast range. Since 1971, I have worked with the Oregon Department of Forestry in the administration of the Forest Practices Act on our properties and have been involved (by testimony to the Board of Forestry) in the greatly broadened and evolving FPA regulations promulgated since then. Please DO NOT destroy the pre-eminent Forest Practices Act in the United States. It is effective, efficient and has the "buy in" of Oregon's forest land owners.

HB 3226 would be an industry killer, especially for family forest owners. The dollar costs, the administrative/decision barricades, the ODF immense administrative cost increase and the huge "reserve" increases imposed on forest landowners would put most of us out of the wood production business.

Ironically, the environmental benefits of this proposed legislation would be NIL!!

Please REJECT this mal-conceived legislation.

Sincerely,

Dave Schmidt, Professional Forester
Managing Partner, Schmidt Family Forest LLC