

I am a family woodland owner and I oppose HB 3226 on the grounds that no industry or profession should be regulated by a single group that uses lies and propaganda to control public opinion. We don't expect every citizen in Oregon to know or understand the complexities of forest management, but a shoot from the hip approach with no scientific basis is beyond the pale. The complaint that the public is suffering from health and safety issues is completely unfounded and not once backed up by any scientific data.

Imagine if the AMA regulations could be overturned by a group of well-meaning or not-so-well meaning citizens. Doctors would have their practices turned upside down by people ignorant of what medical practitioners have to deal with.

I believe once again that the purpose of this HB 3226 is to lock up the forests. Are we such a nation of so-called environmentalists that we plan to import all paper and wood products from nations that follow lesser restrictions? How humanitarian is that? What about the health and water quality for citizens of those nations? Or do only Americans deserve good health.

Unfortunately, these ideas usually come from those with no skin in the game and some kind of axe to grind.

I am offended by this bill and I should think the members of the Board of Forestry are currently rethinking the worth of the hundreds of hours they spend reviewing the Forest Practices Act. I assume the proponents of this bill are highly unqualified to even be on the Board of Forestry or perhaps they would have been chosen. The Board of Forestry studies the issues carefully, listening to thousands of citizen inputs. They review the science and make decisions and changes thoughtfully.

If proponents of this bill have a plan to reimburse me for the loss of my property, I'd like to hear it. I've worked 40 years to develop a stand of timber that may pay back what I've invested in it.

We look to our government to provide reasonable regulation over all industries and not cater to an extreme view. Hasty and poorly conceived solutions bring unintended consequences.

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