

Dear Chair Clem and Members of the Committee,

Please do not support House Bill 3226

The first page must have been written by someone who has not really talked or maybe **listened** to the small woodland owners of Oregon. We love and treasure our old trees. Some may have broken tops and are not pretty but are loved by our wildlife. We do our best to care for them. We love spending time away from our busy everyday lives and enjoy the wildlife and waters on our properties as well. We enjoy our walks through the woods with our pets, family and friends from the city. Many times the trees are the glue that holds families together.

When I was growing up on the tree farm my dad worked hard, putting in many long hours both at his logging job and his farm at home. Mom was home raising kids, farm animals and putting up food for our table. They did not spend money frivolously on anything. No luxurious vacations, fancy clothes, new cars. **They choose to invest their money in timberland for their future and ours. They knew the money would be there when it was needed for retirement and the harvest was ready.** They could have never imagined the kind of laws and regulations that others would try to force upon them to devalue their investment in the trees. Even though my Dad logged he knew that there were always new and better ways of doing things so he took one of the first master woodland manager's classes to be taught at OSU. There have been many others educated in that program as well, including myself. Dad has thinned a little and done some small patch cuts in his retirement years and has taught me, my siblings, children and grandchildren the importance of our education and knowledge to keep doing things right for our woodlands and **if we never cut more than our trees are growing they will be there when we retire to supplement our retirement income.** We try to focus our management in long term Goals and objectives. Some sections in this HB3226 will have major effects on how we have planned to manage our woodlands using our management plan that has been certified with the American Tree Farm System.

Please keep in mind that many small woodland owners plant their timber crop knowing that they have a once in a lifetime opportunity to harvest their crop. (It usually takes at least 50 years if it is Douglas fir.) They will need to plan their harvest when the weather is right, markets are good, and the logger and equipment are available. First thing about this bill that concerns me is the **time required** and the **monetary expense** for the small woodland owner. We don't know how much these new regulations will cost in dollars and cents we just know that we as small woodland owners will have to pay the bill. The **21st line** in this HB3226 states **"more job creation through more laborious forest practices"** Someone has to pay for that training and job creation. I cannot afford to be the Small Woodland Owner that has to pay for these jobs, State, Federal or Private.

There is no need to change the current **"timber harvest notification permit."** Our Stewardship foresters do a good job at making sure we follow the procedures that are updated regularly. The new **"Approval of timber harvest plan"** will require the small woodland owner to hire a professional to complete section Probably the **"technical service provider"** as referred to under the **"laborious forest practices"**

Section 7 – 1 - (a, b, c, d,) are already on the current application, (e) is not needed. (This is extreme)

They want the plan to include the existing stock of trees per acre, basal area to be harvested, stand density index, and stand density as well as after harvest stand density 1 year, 5 years and even 50 years. Now, how will anyone know when a weather event will happen?

(f, g) methods to avoid accelerated erosion after logging, unique areas within a timber operation could both be addressed by our stewardship forester on his approval of harvest notification permit that we currently use.

7-3 State forester has 30 days for approval of harvest plan but if he doesn't you still can do nothing and if rebuttal occurs, it could be indefinite. Remember this our personal investment. We have to pay taxes, insurance and other expenses annually.

Section 8 - With the **extension of the requirements for stream buffers**, including even "seeps and springs" our 160 acres in the coast range near Alsea will have an **additional 15%** of our land totally off limits from timber harvest and an additional 5% possibly enough timber to be able to thin and meet requirements. I should add that we have never seen a fish in any small stream on this property. I had my numbers checked and information from Stewardship forester to confirm my numbers are right.

Section 9 (1) Forest roads would be subject to new and additional restrictions and regulations which would require engineering and significantly **higher costs**.

This is our private property" that others keep trying to take away with their rules and regulations, to satisfy their beliefs that we don't know how to take care of our land.

Thanks for listening and taking into consideration the effects this bill would have on small woodland owners. **No on HB 3226**

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