



**To: Members of the House Committee on Agriculture  
and Natural Resources**

**From: Sheriff Dave Daniel  
Josephine County Sheriff's Office**

**Date: April 13, 2017**

**Re: Support for House Joint Memorial 11**

Chair Clem and members of the committee, for the record, my name is Dave Daniel and I am the Sheriff of Josephine County. I write today to express my strong support for HJM 11. This measure urges the President and the U.S. Congress to find a long-term solution for management of Bureau of Land Management's O&C forest lands.

Historically, Josephine County has been a timber community. So much that our shoulder patches depict a log truck carrying a load of logs. Once a strong and robust community of 85,000, we are now facing drastic cuts to our public safety system. In 2011 the Sheriff's Office was 98 employees strong. In 2011 we had 100 employees. In 2012 we faced layoffs and this caused the Sheriff's Office to close our criminal division. Now in 2017 we are again facing layoffs and forecasting the reduction of our staff to only 40. This reduction will include disbanding our patrol division entirely. I repeat, no patrol services available to our citizens. This, all due to the reduction of O&C funding primarily through the President Obama's administration.

The federal government's forest management plan and practices have called for a drastic reduction in timber harvest, thereby, directly affecting Josephine County's economy. This reduction has slowly torn apart the fabric of Josephine County. Over 70% of the land in Josephine County is federally managed public lands and we are seeing record lows pertaining to timber harvest. With that being said, it is important to urge our congressional delegation to act.

In short, Josephine County is at a physical cliff. We have no juvenile detention facility. Our juvenile shelter has closed. If for no other reason, I call for action as future generations will be affected by the lack of federal support today. Josephine County has a jail that can hold up to 260 inmates. Currently we hold 130 inmates due to lack of funding and soon we may drop to 95. Should the number go below 95, we will be forced to close the jail entirely due to loss of revenues. Josephine County is in a public safety crisis and now more than ever we need your help.

Please join me in asking our representatives in Washington D.C. to act.