

## The Association of Oregon Counties Support SB 168

The Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) supports for SB 168 which extends the sunset for the Biomass Producer or Collector Tax Credit

AOC believes investing in biomass development in Oregon is a “win-win” approach to several problems. SB 168 will

- stimulate new economic investment and green job opportunities, especially in rural areas,
- increase forest health by removing small diameter logs that are currently creating problems for our undermanaged forests, and
- increase energy independence for Oregon by providing clean, home grown sources of heat and electricity.

The counties have also been actively involved in the investments the state has made in existing forest management programs. AOC believes that SB 168 will sync well with these efforts by providing a use for forest materials with a market based mechanism. By incentivizing the collection of materials or production of biomass-based energy the ongoing restoration efforts will continue and provide jobs in the forest product sector.

AOC strongly supports SB 168. For more information on AOC’s position please contact policy manager, Mark Nystrom ([mnystrom@oregoncounties.org](mailto:mnystrom@oregoncounties.org)/503-585-8351)