

## Watts Remy

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**From:** ott.irene@frontier.com  
**Sent:** Monday, March 4, 2019 9:03 AM  
**To:** SENR Exhibits; Sen Hansell; Representative Greg Barreto; Sen Bentz  
**Subject:** Testimony regarding SB 408

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Senator Dembrow and Committee Members:

My testimony regarding this bill is in opposition to the change contained in ORS 215.263, Section 1 (5)(b)(D)(I) located on Page 3, Line 20.

The current language restricts a change in use on land that can produce AT LEAST 20 cubic feet per acre annually (cfa) to MORE THAN 20 cfa. Union County is largely forest lands. In checking with the local Planning Director some time ago, I found that most of the forest land in Union County, and I believe the rest of eastern Oregon is rated at 20 cfa. The next class of timber land is rated 50 cfa. Given the critical nature of preservation of forest lands for the economic well being of the counties in eastern Oregon, providing for any changes in land uses that removes forest lands from production has serious long-term impacts on the viability of the local economy and on adjacent timber owners. The indirect impacts to adjacent forest lands are significantly greater than placing developments in EFU agricultural lands. There is an increase in blow downs along the cleared areas, and the change can significantly increase the costs of harvest and maintenance of adjacent forest lands. Harvest involves the need to avoid impacts to or from the adjacent structures. It may require more expensive harvest and maintenance methods such as the use of helicopters to harvest some areas, exclude the use of crop dusters to treat noxious weeds, can increase the amount of noxious weeds, and will require avoiding the area of the structures by having to construct longer roads to access the site and remove timber,, avoid hazards inherent in the development, etc. These increased costs will fall on the adjacent timber producers.

I urge you to amend SB 408 to remove the change in language that would allow development on land rated 20 cfa.

Thank you very much for your serious consideration of this comment. It is my belief that the change in two words has not been noticed by those impacted by this bill.

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