

Peter Hoffman <peterhoffman@pobox.com>

House Energy and Environment Committee, and Chairman Helm,

My name is Peter Hoffman. My wife and I live in Clackamas County.

We are both retired from professional careers, and we own and operate a small blueberry and peach U-pick farm.

We also own 24 acres in Clackamas County of former horse pasture land, which 6 years ago we planted in forest trees - Douglas Fir, Cedar, and Ponderosa Pine trees.

These are trees which will probably not be harvested in our lifetime, but we feel it is the best long term use of the land, and the right thing for Oregon. And while planting and caring for these 6000 trees is a lot of work, that's part of our lifestyle.

We are OSWA members, and have learned through it of the serious threat HB-2656 poses to nearly every small woodland owner like ourselves.

Of course our planted forest is "even-aged", and requires ongoing management consistent with that.

I believe the forest practices proposed by this piece of legislation would have prevented our forest from ever being planted, and would prevent it from continuing to grow to maturity.

These rules reflect a very myopic perspective on the "environmentalism", and even less perspective on what is best OVERALL for Oregon, its residents, its economy, or even for the forests its proponents say they care about.

This bill should never become law!
Please look at the bigger picture when you vote on it.

Respectfully,
Peter Hoffman.