

From: [Daphne Wysham](#)
To: [Exhibits HNR](#)
Subject: Support HB 2659
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 3:01:37 PM

Dear House Natural Resource Committee Members,
I am writing you in support of HB 2659, the Forest Carbon Incentives Act. It is long past time that we stopped throwing away our hard-earned taxpayer dollars, subsidizing large corporations that continue to downsize their workforce, then allow them to clearcut our forests with mechanized equipment, take the raw, unprocessed logs and export them for processing outside our state, all while destroying our natural forests, streams, and wildlife. These jobs could readily be *increased* if we didn't subsidize these unsustainable practices but instead subsidized sustainable forest management practices as HB 2659 would do. This bill does NOT target small landowners, despite what the corporations claim. It only targets property owners who own over 5000 acres in land.

Why should we be doling out our taxpayer money for literally less than \$2 per acre in return in revenue? Why should regular Oregonians have to pay more to have clean water after massive clearcuts destroy our watersheds, or risk getting cancer from the aerial spraying that is routinely practiced in rural Oregon?

We know that we need to encourage climate-smart practices, as this bill would do, if we are to tackle the problem of climate change in Oregon. The timber industry is our number one source of greenhouse gas emissions in the state, as confirmed by OSU researchers, yet we continue to cut down our older trees, destroying these natural carbon sinks. Short rotations do not result in the kind of carbon sequestration we need to slow climate change.

These subsidies to Big Timber should be discontinued and, once they are, that would free up upwards of \$200 million (and possibly more than \$400 million) that could be used to help endow our rural schools and social services in rural areas. Over \$100 million per year could be freed up to invest in climate smart practices that employ far more workers than conventional practices.

We want to see more jobs in the woods, not less, and the best way to do that is to subsidize the labor-intensive sustainable forest management practices that this bill calls for.

Please listen to Oregon residents, not the Big Timber donors, and stand up for clean water, healthy communities, more jobs in rural areas, and more money for rural schools and ensure this bill is passed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Daphne Wysham

