

Gerald Murphy

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To: House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

From: Gerald Murphy

Re: Oppose **HB 2357 Elimination of the Oregon Forests Resources Institute**

Dear Chairman Witt and Committee Members,

Simply, Oregon Forests Resources Institute is under a Governor's ordered audit to discover misuse of public funds to benefit the timber industry. Discovery has uncovered acts to influence campaigns and legislation and interfere with university climate research. According to the Oregon Secretary of State the institute has not been audited since 1996, let's find out what the audit exposes before making such a radical move.

I'm sure that disciplinary safeguards can be put in place to prevent this from recurring. This is too valuable an Institute to just do away with, fix it.

Sincerely,

Gerald Murphy