

My name is Vanessa, I live in Portland, and I am writing in support of HB 2357 to eliminate the Oregon Forest Resources Institute and Fund, due to their suppression of significant scientific data related to the connection between logging practices and environmental impacts. We should not fund an organization that produces biased, misleading, and at times completely incorrect 'reports' in order to funnel support into the logging industry. The impacts of clear-cut logging need to be acknowledged in order for us to find meaningful solutions to the slew of environmental issues plaguing our local and regional communities, our wildlife, our watersheds, and our global climate. Such logging practices result in watersheds that are threatened and degraded due to chemical inputs and logging road construction. Taxpayer funds should not be used to support lobbying interests of an industry that has not been accountable for their environmental impact and continue to manipulate the data to mislead the community and consumers. You must pass this bill to eliminate OFRI and stop channeling taxpayer funds into an organization that hurts Oregon, and instead redirect funds to institutes that support factual research and forest restoration.