

Dear Committee and Committee Members,

My name is Debra Webb I listened to the Hearing on HB2357 & HB2379 on March 2, 2021.

People who oppose getting rid of OFRI are the people who pay for it through the work they do.

People who want to get rid of OFRI mostly live in Multnomah County a non rural community. They do not pay for OFRI with money they have earned. Some of these people used the (Media) as a resource to make their decision.

I listened to these very educated people in the hearing. Some of their comments were not 100% correct.

OFRI did get it right. If you plant trees to close together they will grow slower smaller. The rings will grow closer together. Just like if you garden and plant everything to close together the vegetables may be smaller than if you put them a little farther apart. OFRI understands Forests.

People that wanted to end OFRI made some very damaging comments.

The research I found said the OFRI board was appointed by the Oregon State Forestry. Some of the members include a small woodland owner, A Dept of Forestry Representative and The Dean of OSU College of Forestry. All of these outstanding people seem like they would have the best interests of everyone at heart. I believe they would also have a great deal of integrity.

If someone overstepped please do not end the program have the Oregon State Forestry who appoints the board members suggest changes. Do not end a program that has worked well for so many.

My neighbor is a retired school secretary and she said OFRI is amazing. She said the children love the field trips they help fund. Please oppose HB2357 & HB2379. We need OFRI. Look at the Resources on there website, amazing and wonderful! Thank you,

