

To the Senate Committee on Natural Resource and Wildfire Recovery,
We own and manage about 100 acres of woodlands in Yamhill County. We oppose reducing the number of the Board of Forestry members who receive significant income from the forest products industry from 3 to 2 out of 7. It is of vital importance to have forest professionals on the board who are knowledgeable about on the ground forestry practices. It is also necessary for the Regional Forest Practice Committees to continue to be able to advise the board on how board decisions affect forest management. The Board of Forestry should continue to be in charge of hiring the State Forester as they are more intimately involved with the workings and challenges of the Oregon Department of forestry than the Governor alone. The people who work in the forest products industry are not the enemies of sound forest management. We want healthy sustainable forests, clean water and air, and healthy wildlife habitat. We know we can continue to improve, but we must not be left out of processes concerning current forest management issues.

For these reasons we oppose Senate bill 335. Thank you for your consideration.
Hal and Elin Hagglund