

To: Senator Golden and Members of the Senate Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery Committee

From: Debby Garman on behalf of the members of 350.org Washington County

Date: March 18, 2021

Re: SB 335-2 Revising Governance of Department of Forestry

Chair Golden and Members of the Committee;

The hundreds of Oregon citizen members of 350.org Washington County are in full support of the policy changes recommended in SB 335-2. The Timber Industry has held massive power and influence throughout our State history and their control and profit priority has decimated our forest treasures. It's time for the balance of power to change to preserve Oregon forests for future generations.

Especially since climate science indicates that we have little time to make radical changes to preserve humans and the planet, it's imperative to make essential changes as soon as possible to our forest practices. Trees should be a shared and thoughtfully stewarded resource for all of Oregon's citizens, not just an extractive resource to make rich people richer by destroying the balance of natural systems, trashing water resources, and toxifying soil with heavy equipment and chemicals.

The current structure of the Board of Forestry and administrative management fully reflects the past weighted power of Commercial and Industrial Timber players. With climate chaos looming, not only our State, but also the world don't have time to keep State priorities focused on Timber profits.

We need our forests managed for the benefit of ALL our people – for health, clean air, clean water, natural biodiversity that support life as we know it - and for carbon sequestration. The structural changes made with SB 335-2 are an absolute must to remove traditional barriers to working toward best practice forest stewardship in Oregon.

Please do pass SB 335-2.

Thank you,

Debby Garman, Team Lead 350.org Washington County