

Good afternoon,

First off I would like to ask what the privilege tax rate will be on HB2070? I operate on my families small forestland tract. The logging is on a small scale, usually 10 loads or less a year, and uses older equipment. It is very labor intensive. We selective cut to leave trees for future harvest and to maintain forest health. The small forest tract and severance taxes are paid as required plus the income generated is taxed. I cannot understand how increasing taxes on our logging operation is a fair shake at earning an income. It is a tax on top of a tax. The property does not make alot of money. The money earned from logging generally goes to upkeep of fences, pastures and equipment. So how is it a privilege that deserve to be taxed more? It makes it more difficult to afford the upkeep and in turn makes it harder to keep up the defensible spaces from wildfire. It burdens the operating costs even more than this tax on a tax has already caused. These rural ranches and timbered areas do not more taxes on their livlihoods. We know how to manage our lands responsibly, but it takes money to effectively do that. This tax will leave less funds for us to help our property thrive and stay safe from the effects of nature.

Thank you, Brian Long