

I oppose any version of this bill. More than 170,000 Oregon school children receive well-curated educational materials because OFRI exists; this includes about \$100,000 in reimbursements for field trips to our states forests. Also, forest landowners receive training and manuals to help them sustainably manage their lands to maintain wildlife habitat, clean air and water. OFRI has established a strong record of being a reliable source of facts about Oregon's forests and is funded exclusively by forestry professionals. Additionally, OFRI provides in-depth special reports on topics like water quality, harvest methods and wildfire, as well as a bi-annual Oregon Forest Facts booklet and county economic fact sheets – all important resources for the public. Materials are well-researched and contain sources and lists of advisory committee members who contributed to and reviewed them.

These are stressful times, and some in our state have misrepresented one of Oregon's most important resources for learning more about forests and forest management – whether one is a student, an elected official, a department staffer or an interested citizen. OFRI offers sound science and reliable facts, and that should guide your decision.

Please vote "no" on HB 2357.