

Dear Chair Nathanson, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this bill. I write in support of HB2357.

I wish I could be more clever and use really catchy phrasing to grab your attention to the problems this bill addresses but I'm not so I'll have to say it in very plain speak: It's about time there was proper accountability for OFRI and about time someone recognized a lobbying organization is taking taxpayer money in the guise of the State of Oregon and disseminating politically charged disinformation about logging practices.

I mean the nerve of OFRI to tell the public in advertisements and leafletting that Oregon has some of the strictest logging practice laws around--when in fact (this one is not hard to verify) we have the weakest and are the weak link in the PNW.

Then there's OFRI's all out efforts to discredit forest climate reports by highly reputable Oregon State University scientists because they dared to speak the truth about logging practices by Big Timber. What does it take for the State to realize that OFRI has a specific agenda that runs counter to science, counter to ethics and counter to public opinion? Oh sure they'll outreach into small timber farms and help them out, and that should continue. You want ma and pa timber farmers to testify against this bill, no problem, gather the farmers you've helped and request a favor.

Thank you, Rick Rappaport