

Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the Committee:

I am testifying in support of 2357 because the Oregon Forest Resources Institute does not present sound or responsible scientific information to our schools and the general public. I support the idea of prohibiting OFRI from engaging in "generalized advertising for public education."

OFRI's members represent Big Timber: While OFRI

presents itself as a government agency, the organization is dominated by the timber industry. Among the thirteen members, OFRI's Board includes nine representatives of the forest products industry, one member representing small woodland owners and one representative

of forest industry employees. The OFRI board is composed of individuals intimately involved in and dependent on the forest industry's continued success.

OFRI illegally lobbies against climate-smart forestry: As

a publicly funded organization, Oregon law prohibits OFRI from lobbying. Yet, OFRI has worked to lobby against climate change legislation and stronger logging regulations to protect clean water and communities.