

I am writing to ask that you support Representative Nancy Nathanson's
"HB 2070, Harvest tax Amendment Request

This is only a very small step to resolving our Forest problems but it is progress. I know the big national timber conglomerates are doing every thing they can to dissuade you from voting for this but our climate and forest health can no longer be treated as a renewable resource when most of it is cut down shipped out of Oregon and then the land is sprayed with toxins that poison our watershed, fish runs, wild life and farm lands. We need to know where timber tax money goes!

"Establish a single rate and remove sunset. Purpose: make the process more transparent; add dependability for budgeting and taxpayers.

Main features

Retain the current key features, such as excluding first 25,000 board feet and directing the revenue to existing programs.

1. Set a single rate: \$4.5256. For reference, the current rate is \$4.1322/MBF, or thousand board feet, to cover all five components of current tax. Taking the high point of the individual tax rates over the past 10 years, in today's dollars, the rate would have been \$4.7183.

2. Remove required 40/60 (private/public) split and therefore the resulting cap on expenditures from the tax for the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

3. No sunset.

4. Adjust for inflation annually based on western states CPI.

5. First 25,000 feet, board measure, is excluded.

6. Distribute the revenue: Percentage to existing programs, same distribution as now.

Note: if the expenditure cap on Forest Practices Act is reached, revenue may be spent on fire suppression, fire mitigation, forest health, or habitat conservation."