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To: Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources

As a resident of Oregon and a retired geologist, I can't believe that I am writing again, a year later, to urge that the Oregon's Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, DOGAMI be maintained.

No matter how hard some desire, we can't stop earthquakes, we can't stop tsunamis, and we can't stop volcanic eruptions. But we can greatly reduce the likely toll from these events through their recognition, understanding, and thoughtful preparation. DOGAMI provides Oregonians with the critical scientific information needed to keep us informed and keep us safer.

As reported recently by the Astorian, the failure by the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon Department of Forestry to heed the recommendations of DOGAMI resulted in landslide that recently shut down U.S. Highway 30. Fortunately no lives were lost; but what was the cost? Just think about the \$12 million wasted on the La Pine overpass project due to a lack of geological understanding!

We continue to experience the devastation caused by "silencing the messenger" and not "listening to the messenger" with covid-19. The potential impact to Oregon residents, visitors, business, and industries will only be increased should the "Messenger be silenced".

Please take into consideration the critical role that DOGAMI plays in Oregon when you consider HB5010. I find the bill confusing and I don't understand why an emergency is being declared. I've been told that although the bill provides funding, it will actually result in the elimination of DOGAMI in 2022. If the elimination of DOGAMI in 2022 is hidden in the obtuse wording, what a shameful miss-representation!

With respect,

Robert Timmer