

February 26, 2021

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Debra Webb

I am opposed to HB2379. In 1979 as a 19 year old female I started buying forestland 41 years ago. I have held accounting and research positions.

**Please do not eliminate funding for OFRI**

**I have seen logging costs increase over 40 years but prices paid for logs have not really changed much  
Prices paid for logs fluctuate like gas prices.**

The drafters of this bill I'm assuming look at revenue from Timber taxes. What they didn't look at is:

**Timber harvest volume has dramatically declined over the last 60 years.**

**Less Harvest means less taxes received**

**Less Revenue for the forestland owner**

After looking at the numbers, small forest land owners need subsidy instead of tax increases. Collecting Funds from a Struggling Industry is wrong.

**Proposed HB2379**

**5% of the value of timber before logging costs is like 10% of gross net income  
after logging costs.**

The profit margin does not support this.

When is it a privilege to work so hard.

Lose an eye like my father did working in the woods or have a chain saw cut through your leg to the bone, or have your right leg pop out of the hip like mine did.

These new taxes just beat to death forest land owners who already pay taxes.

Land owners already have laws to prevent logging on parts of their land.

Laws that prevent building on some of the land they own with no compensation

Laws that make them pay taxes called privilege tax.

**What forestland owners need is your help and support.**

**The alternative is to convert land into some other resource or clear cut.**

**What a Sad thought.**

**Thank you,**

**Debra Webb**