

Submitter: LAURIE KIMMELL

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB502

I oppose Senate Bill 502 diverting kicker funds away from the Oregon Taxpayers. Oregon forests have been neglected for years since the spotted owl stopped logging in Oregon. I agree we need to fund forest management, but not at the expense of the Taxpayer. The kicker refund check was a Ballot Measure initiative that was passed to return excess funds to the taxpayers not for the Oregon Legislature to spend as free additional money. A large part of forest management is selective logging in all of our state forests. I'm not talking clear cutting which is the most economical for the loggers, it is putting the logging companies back in business and providing timber for new, remodeled Oregon Homes, and exporting our timber to other states for construction instead of using Canadian Lumber.

Forest management is a continuous process harvesting trees, replanting and removing unnecessary undergrowth from our forests consequently; by reducing forest fires. Not unnecessary waste of one of our greatest natural resources here in Oregon Timber. We currently have excess tax revenue in Oregon without touching the Kicker refund money and shorting the Oregon Taxpayer..

LAURIE KIMMELL, MSgt, USAF (Ret,)