

Submitter: Jerry Grossnickle

On Behalf Of: Forest Park Neighborhood Association

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure: HB2527

Attn: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
re: HB2527

As Chair of the Land Use Committee for Forest Park Neighborhood Association, I would like to commend the House Committee for considering HB2527, which would provide a Special Assessment program for taxpayers whose lands have significant wildlife habitat. This legislation is of great interest to our neighborhood, which borders Portland's Forest Park and is situated on a significant wildlife corridor connecting the Coast Range to the Portland area. While some properties within the boundaries of Forest Park Neighborhood Association qualify for a forest deferral, there are many others with significant wildlife habitat that do not. These are lands that may not have merchantable stands of timber, but may be situated along streams or other wildlife corridors, or are within areas with significant wildlife habitat that should be protected. A tax incentive would help protect these lands, particularly if accompanied by an approved wildlife habitat management plan.

Thank you.

Jerry Grossnickle, Chair
Land Use Committee
Forest Park Neighborhood Association