

Submitter: Pam Birmingham

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB795

Please protect our State Forests and avoid the very obvious conflict of interest if they are turned over to the counties. Our forests belong to the people, not the counties. As a Forestry graduate, a former Park Ranger and long time real estate broker in Clatsop County I have first hand knowledge that the majority of people want real forests, not managed clearcuts. The people buying homes and land are seeking nature, not industrial lands. Homes near clearcuts and aerial spraying loose value. We must seek alternative funding for our timber dependent counties. Turning these lands over to the very entities that rely on them for their revenue stream is putting the fox in charge of the hen house and is an egregious conflict of interest. In this era of accelerating climate change we must do all we can to protect our invaluable carbon sequestering forests. Please firmly reject SB795 and instead pursue alternative funding sources for our counties.