

Submitter: Bob Goldberg

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB795

To the Natural Resources Committee,

I am OPPOSED to SB795. The rural county commissioners who are pro-timber and logging as a funding source are trying to use this bill to turn back a Supreme Court ruling maintaining state control over forests. In addition to sponsoring and supporting this bill, these same interests have scuttled a proposed bill that would have started on the road to alternative funding for rural counties.

Most of the people in Oregon agree with me, and want there to be an alternative funding source for rural counties so that our state forest lands can be used for the maximum benefit of not only all human Oregonians, but also all species that rely on forests. We are blessed with amazing rainforests near the coast where I live, and it's well past time that we stopped logging these forests like tree farms, and returned them to their full functionality. We can do that AND fund our rural counties by taxing large corporations and rich people fairly, and by working TOGETHER to the benefit of all.

Please vote AGAINST SB795 in committee and kill this bill before it can do any further damage. At the very best, it will be tied up in court for years, and at the very worst, will bring our public forests down and destroy any hope we have of surviving in the future.