

Submitter: Ron kutch

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB795

I am writing today IN FAVOR OF SB 795.

Oregon's timber-dependent communities have been in decline for 40 years. These once proud and hardworking counties, towns and families have been ravaged by poverty with the decline of the forest products industry. When the State began to manage forest lands within Oregon's counties, it was to "secure the greatest permanent value of the forest lands." The meaning of "greatest permanent value" has changed over the years to mean anything the State of Oregon wants it to mean.

Oregon's rural counties sued the State to pay for lost revenues resulting from the change in management practices and won. That decision was struck down by the appeals court, leaving Oregon's hardworking people, once again, holding the bag.

Let's restore the pride and prosperity to our timber-dependent communities once again. I urge you to pass SB 795.

Thank you