

Submitter: Michael Chamberlain Torres

On Behalf
Of:

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

Measure: HB4106

I strongly oppose HB 4106.

While timber is undoubtedly and historically an economic driver for Oregon, this bill, if passed would harm our state in the long-run. As written, this bill would undermine the state forest plan which is rooted in sound science and critical to preserving clean water, fish habitat, and scenic wild areas. Fisheries and Tourism are likewise vital industries in our state. Both these industries are working towards conservation and realize the economic benefits of planet-first policies. We must take a similar approach as it relates to timber. Economics aside, the impacts of climate change are more apparent than ever. We must take strong and decisive action to protect our Oregon Forests. While clearcuts can be replanted, a forest is so much more than just a group of trees. It's an entire ecosystem, the destruction of which has far reaching implications. Truly restoring a forest takes hundreds of years.

I respectfully ask that you reject HB 4106, and in doing so make a decision to place our future above our history. Thank you.