

Submitter: Eric Halperin

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure: SB1593

I support SB 1593-1 to study the re-introduction of a timber severance tax program. As a resident of Clatsop County, and a former resident of Tillamook County, I well understand the economic impacts of the wood products industry on community health and services. With the impending institution of a Habitat Conservation Plan, we need a new funding model for rural communities that is not based strictly on board feet of lumber produced.

This bill seeks to find a fair and equitable plan to fund wildfire protection and essential community services such as public safety, roads, schools, and libraries. Please pass this bill to get that conversation going.