

3/24/2025

To Committee on Rules,

I strongly oppose taking the responsibility of appointing the State Forester from the Board of Forestry and designating it to one person, our Governor. It is imperative that our forests and those who maintain their health and viability are overseen by a professional who has years of boots on the ground experience. The greatest environmentalist is someone whose very livelihood depends upon the habitat they are surrounded by. We can no longer allow our forests to be left to those who would have a hands-off approach watch the habitat they claim to appreciate and want to protect burn to the ground. We need balance and an understanding that more than a classroom understanding of our ecosystem demands.

Please vote no on SB 1051. Keep forestry in the hands of those who understand the forests.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tracy Pierce, concerned citizen