

Submitter: Ross Ryno  
On Behalf Of: Double Bar Land LLC  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3940

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To Whom It May Concern:

Hello, my name is Ross Ryno. My family and I raise cattle and have significant timber land in Wheeler County, Oregon. I also sit on ODF's Central Oregon District Budget Committee.

I support H.B. 3940.

As a landowner and budget committee member, I have watched rates climb throughout the years, but no increase as significant as those following S.B. 762. These rates are hurting all family ranches and small timberland owners as the tax assessment is higher than the amount the land can produce.

Since S.B. 762, our Central Oregon District budget committee has unanimously voted not to pass the proposed budget for years. Fire funding is difficult to understand; 50 % of local firefighting costs are paid by landowners. 3940 will remove centralized costs from local budgets which will provide some relief to lower local budgets.

This bill is aimed to do more than just help local budgets. The proposed funding will not just fight fires but will reduce fire overall through mitigation and resiliency.

Finding another source of revenue besides that from landowners is important for things that we all enjoy—clean water, healthy forests, and clean air.

The Fire 35 group worked to find some new sources of revenue besides that of the large stakeholders who are already carrying far too large of a tax burden for them to sustain. The Bottle Bill spreads this cost throughout so that our residents and visitors alike can enjoy seeing Oregon green.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Ross Ryno  
Double Bar Land