

Submitter: Scott Russell

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1061

Chair Taylor, Co-Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee.

My name is Scott Russell. Our family owns forest land in Columbia and Washington counties. We support SB 1061. Many forest owners grow timber on their land and would like to see the fruits of their labor put into a home. Timber milled into lumber stores carbon, contributing to an improved environment. A small sawmill produces lumber often of higher quality than lumber yard bought. By teaching small mill operators how to grade the lumber they cut, that otherwise would be used for firewood, will sequester carbon in a livable home. With the additional reduction of greenhouse gases resulting from burning the same wood. It is impractical to hire a professional grader to grade the small volume of lumber from these mills. As a 25 year member of Oregon Small Woodlands Association, I have had many opportunities to interact with Oregon State Extension and find them knowledgeable and professional. I have no doubt Extension will do a fine job of educating mill operators. I urge you to pass this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Russell

Raymond Creek LLC

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