

Submitter: Brittany Burnham  
On Behalf Of: We The People  
Committee: House Committee On Revenue  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1507

To the Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Brittany Burnham, and I am an Oregon resident, a wife of a fifth-generation farm family, a mother, and a taxpayer. I am writing in strong opposition to SB 1507.

Like many rural Oregonians, we live with the reality of wildfire risk every single year. We believe in responsible forest management, protecting our communities, and funding true prevention. However, this bill asks Oregonians to commit to permanent, ongoing funding without first fixing the mismanagement that helped create the crisis.

For decades, poor forest policy, lack of active management, and burdensome regulations have allowed fuel loads to build to dangerous levels. Throwing more money into the same system without structural reform does not solve the problem — it guarantees that taxpayers will be asked to pay more while the conditions on the ground continue to worsen.

SB 1507 also places a long-term obligation on the state's general fund. That fund is already strained by an education system that is failing many families and services that many of us do not use. My family has chosen to homeschool, we live and work in the agricultural community, and we carefully budget every dollar. We cannot support another permanent funding mechanism that competes with core priorities and reduces future kicker refunds that working families rely on.

Rural and working-class Oregonians are continually asked to carry the financial burden for policies we had no voice in creating. Meanwhile, the state has not demonstrated that it can manage existing resources efficiently or transparently.

Before creating new funding streams, we should see:

- Meaningful forest management reform
- Accountability for current wildfire spending
- A focus on prevention through active land management, not bureaucracy
- Protection of the kicker and the general fund for essential services

Wildfire policy must address root causes, not just funding symptoms.

My husband has spent most of his life working on a multi-generation farm. We understand stewardship of the land. We understand prevention. And we understand

living within our means. This bill does not reflect those values.

Please vote NO on SB 1507 and pursue real solutions that prioritize responsible forest management, fiscal accountability, and the needs of rural Oregon families.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Brittany Burnham  
Oregon Resident