



OREGON HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 29, 2025

Timothy G. Sekerak
Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol Building
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Vote Explanation – ^{SB}~~HB~~ 1061B

Chief Clerk Sekerak,

Please accept this explanation of my NAY vote on ^{SB}~~HB~~ 1061B. I fully support small woodlands owners and those who wish to mill their own lumber. However, I do have concerns with this bill and the lack of a fiscal being issued with it.

OSU Extension does not currently have faculty with expertise in lumber grading so they will be relying on an expert from out of state to come to Oregon to administer the training.

In a letter submitted from OSU and posted to OLIS on 5/12/25, they stated that if the bill is passed and there is NO funding for the pilot program by the legislature, above what is in the Governor's budget, then they will have to cut other programs in the OSU Extension budget to accomplish the mandates in the bill.

25 Counties in Oregon have passed Tax Service Districts used to fill in the operating budgets of their County OSU Extension offices due to the historical underfunding of the OSU Extension budget. This includes Union and Douglas Counties where OSU is proposing to hold the first year pilot training sessions.

If the state does not provide the \$53,021 will these two counties share the cost in 2026 and will they then need to cut 4-H opportunities such as, Master Gardner programs, Family & Community Health programs, or small farm programs or will OSU cut costs across all 36 counties even if they do not use the pilot program?

I could have supported this bill if it were going to Ways & Means to be funded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A Scharf".

Anna Scharf
State Representative – HD 23