

Submitter: Gwen Farnsworth
On Behalf Of: self
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB78

Good afternoon, Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and members of the committee.

My name is Gwen Farnsworth. I own a 500-acre tract of forest land in the Dexter area, 14 miles south of Eugene. Though it looks like a single holding, it's actually composed of 14 different parcels, all zoned F-2 or "impacted" forest land, with my house the only dwelling.

The F-2 zoning means that the other 13 tax lots are potentially eligible for one of six different types of new houses authorized by state law, including replacement dwellings, as well as a host of commercial and recreational uses, including home occupations.

I placed all of my acreage in a conservation easement that does not allow any other development, but most of Lane County's private forest land is not adequately protected. Land use laws have been weakened over the years as the pressure for luxury homesite development and hospitality and entertainment venues in the forest has increased.

I strongly support Senate Bills 77 and 78, which together are a first step in reversing the development trend on private forest land, and I urge you to do so, as well.

Thank you.

Gwen Farnsworth

Dexter