

Submitter: Bjorn Bonholzer
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB77

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and Committee Members Girod, Prozanski and Taylor:

Thank you for stewarding Oregon's natural resources.

I am writing today to express my support for SB 77. Bills like this don't come up often and I am excited to have the chance to ask you to pass this important measure.

In Oregon, our land use laws allow people living in exclusive farm use and forest zones to operate small businesses, called "home occupations," within their homes. Examples would be bookkeeping services or small-scale childcare facilities.

However, the existing home occupation provision is vaguely written and it has become a loophole that has enabled hospitality, entertainment, and other large-scale commercial uses to encroach upon our valuable exclusive farm use and forest zones, evading the legislature's specific requirements for such nonfarm and nonforest uses.

I urge you to pass SB 77 to protect Oregon's working farms and forest lands.

Thank you for your thoughtful work on behalf of all Oregonians!

Regards,

Bjorn C. Bonholzer