

H 7618

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in opposition to H 7618, the Forestry and Forest Parity Act. It seems that this bill would remove the use and sales tax for forest product operational equipment, and also expand zoning for timber harvesting. This would make it more profitable to log forests in Rhode Island, and increase the pressure to clearcut forests for such projects as solar farms.

At a time when we are all concerned about loss of forests, decreasing biodiversity, increases in invasive species, water and soil degradation, a rise in more fire-prone landscapes, and reducing carbon emissions, it seems that this Act is not in anyone's best interest—excepting that of the logging companies—at this time.

Please oppose H 7618.

Thank You,

Holly Hemmalin, PhD
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