

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in opposition to H 8152, the Forest Parity Act

If passed, this bill would work in direct opposition to the Act On Climate legislation passed by the RI Legislature in 2021.

It established enforceable greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. These targets are already under assault by the

actions of our current federal government. Cutting down forests would make it even harder to meet those targets as trees

absorb greenhouse gases!

H 8152 would expand the Timber industry in the state by making it more profitable to clearcut forests on both

public and private land, including for solar.

H 8152 removes the use and sales tax on forest product equipment including chainsaws, logging trucks, sawmills, etc.

Why favor this industry with sales tax breaks?

H 8152 would also expand the zoning of where logging can take place to all zoning districts.

Destructive logging destroys biodiversity, spreads invasive species, creates tick habitat, releases most of the carbon stored

in a forest into the atmosphere as air pollution contributing to Climate Change, and creates a fire hazard.

Logging destroys cool, damp forests and replaces it with dry forests filled with invasive underbrush and flammable wood slash on the forest floor.

H 8152 would also endanger people's lives by the increased logging, creating a more fire-prone landscape.

Please do not pass this un-environmental bill.

Respectfully,

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