

Ron Lovaglio
Augusta
LD 870

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee

Senator Rachel Talbot Ross

Representative Bill Pluecker

Members of the Committee.

Re: LD870

I'm Ron Lovaglio, former Commissioner of Conservation and Former Chief Forester for International Paper Company's Northeast Region.

Unfortunately, I'm old enough to remember in the mid 80's when there was no representative on the Commission from the very land planned and regulated by LURC at that time and now appropriately named LUPC. Ten million acres under state planning commission with no representation from the ownership. It clearly was regulation and planning without representation. It caused a lot of anxiety and was clearly unfair. And without representation it created more of an adversary relationship with LUPC than the cooperative relationship there is now.

After years of statewide discussion one landowner representative was finally appointed and the legislation was amended to the fair representation that is successfully working now. My simple admonition is "don't fix what's not broken," and, in fact is a fair process.

My bottom line is LD 870 ought not to pass. I can be reached at 207-660-8561 or my eMail if members have questions.

Best regards,

Ron Lovaglio