

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION 98-2-25-12) IN THE MATTER OF SUPPORT FOR
) THE ADOPTION OF THE FOREST
) RECOVERY AND PROTECTION ACT

WHEREAS, as early as 1991 the membership of the Association of Oregon Counties formally urged action against the monumental forest health problems on federal land in Oregon, which if unabated would have dramatically negative effects on virtually all forest resource values, including watershed protection, wildlife habitat, air quality, timber production, forage, recreation, and community vitality (RESOLUTION 91-F1); and

WHEREAS, Lane County, Oregon has a direct and continuing interest in the **health of federal forests, because of their importance to the vitality** of our communities, and their critical contribution to our environment and high quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Congressman Bob Smith has introduced the Forest Recovery and Protection Act (HR 2515); and

WHEREAS, HR 2515 is results-oriented by requiring the Secretary of Agriculture to identify, prioritize, and conduct projects over a five-year period in areas at greatest risk to forest health; and

WHEREAS, HR 2515 is scientifically sound because it creates a scientific advisory panel to help the Secretary administer the national program and enables the Secretary to immediately conduct forest health projects in areas where there is sufficient science to move quickly; and

WHEREAS, HR 2515 is environmentally sensible by working within the framework of existing environmental laws and forest plans; and

WHEREAS, HR 2515 assures that the program is fiscally responsible *by* establishing a revolving fund to pay for projects without requiring new spending, *by* limiting funding of administrative overhead to maximize amounts available for on-the-ground activities, and by requiring audits by the General Accounting Office to ensure efficiency and results; and

WHEREAS, HR 2515 enables local communities to identify federal forest lands in need of recovery and petition the Secretary to designate those areas as recovery areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Lane County, Oregon, strongly supports the efforts of Congressman Smith to cause action against the serious and growing forest health problems on federal land; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT HR 2515 *is* a sound and responsible concept strongly supported by Lane County, Oregon, which urges the Congress to adopt it.

Dated this _____ day of February, 1998.



Chair, Lane County Board of Commissioners