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Senate Committee on Regulatory Reform

October 10, 2013

RE: Written testimony in opposition to efforts to eliminate the Michigan Registered Forester Designation (committee meeting 1:00 pm 10/10/13).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony. **I am in opposition to SB 481, SB 484, HB4379 & HB438.** The Michigan Registered Forester Designation is very important to Michigan landowners and consumers of forest management services in Michigan.

Please consider that the Governor's Timber Advisory Committee is in favor of keeping the Michigan Registered Forester Designation. I have copied the resolution below.

WHEREAS, The Michigan Timber Advisory Committee (TAC) was appointed by the Governor to provide advice and counsel to the Governor, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (Department), Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) on policy, procedure, issues, and concerns related to timber management in this state AND to provide advice to the Governor, Department, MEDC and DARD on how to foster the growth of the timber industry in the State thereby improving the State's rural economy; **and**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the TAC request the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Regulatory Reinvention and the Governor reconsider its intention to eliminate the Michigan Registered Forester professional designation.

This resolution was passed on this 31st day of May, 2012, at a regular meeting of the Michigan Timber Advisory Committee.

Chairperson

Please call or e-mail if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Gerald Grossman, ACF & CF
MI Registered Forester #567

Cc: Bill O'Neal (Michigan State Forester)
JR Richardson, Chair Michigan Timber Advisory Committee