



OREGON

WORKING FAMILIES PARTY

VOTE YOUR VALUES

Save Family Wage Green Jobs in Oregon's Paper Mills: HB 4142

The Problem

Did you know...

The export of America's paper waste to China is negatively impacting Oregon's paper mills – causing them to struggle with high prices and dwindling supply.

These struggles have contributed to mill closures and bankruptcies and hundreds of jobs lost throughout the state -- with more on the brink.

The Solution

HB4142, Sponsored by Co-Speaker Arnie Roblan, the Republican and Democratic chairs of the Business and Labor Committee, and many other Representatives, will begin to address this problem by expanding the state's preference for procurement of recycled products which is already written into law*, to include a preference for paper manufactured at paper mills located in the state. as long as the cost of that paper does not exceed the cost of non-recycled paper or paper manufactured outside Oregon by more than 10%.

This is not the full solution to the closure of our paper mills, but coupled with federal action it could help to save thousands of family wage green jobs in our State.

**- Our Trash = Oregon Jobs -
Support HB4142**

*(ORS 279A.125)

It's All About Jobs....

In 1980, paper mills employed over 10,000 workers in Oregon, paying them family wages, benefits and providing union representation. Today Oregon paper mills employ approximately 3,300 workers and the jobs that remain are in danger.

As the economic downturn continues, **Oregon cannot afford the continued loss of well-paid manufacturing jobs. Mills at home should not close while China's industry booms.**

Why Should We Care?

Oregon citizens dutifully separate recyclable material for curbside pickup each week across the state. Along with the help of a highly productive waste recovery system, **Oregonians divert over 600,000 tons of waste paper from landfills each year.**

Oregonians that care about sustainability and jobs would not want their recovered paper to leave the state only to arrive in China's dirty mills. **Recycling in Oregon should create jobs in Oregon and protect the environment.**

Oregon Working Families Party
www.oregonwfp.org
oregon@workingfamilies.org
503-841-7161