

Committee Members, Thank you for letting me submit my testimony on HB 2248.

House Bill 2248 seems to be a catch all bill, tying together floatation to chemical leach in order to umbrella everything into one permit. I have no problem with the permitting Calico for their proposed mine in the Grassy Mountain area.

There needs to be a dual permit level for benign froth floatation on small mine operations say up to 20 ton a day and above in the case of Calico. There also needs to be a distinction in the permitting level for small mining entities in the vague wording and high permit fees.

Calico is a viable operation and the State of Oregon should expedite the Calico permit. With proper distinction between large operation and small mining. It is a win, win for both the state producing a revenue stream and good paying jobs for Oregonians.

This positive move by Oregon to permit large companies will lead to the resurgence of mining exploration in Oregon. Oregon needs to take a hard look at Nevada and look at the revenue that is produced by mining. There is not too much geological distinction between Eastern Oregon, Idaho and Nevada. Thank you for the opportunity to submit input into HB 2248
Chuck Chase, Executive Director, Eastern Oregon Mining Association