

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
RAY SEIDLER  
rayseidler@msn.com  
ASHLAND, OREGON  
FEB 23 TESTIMONY  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON CARBON REDUCTION**

**Thank you for coming to our community to hear our passions for HB2020 which I strongly support. My comments address the topic of carbon sequestration on working lands.**

**Seventy five percent of Oregon's surface area of 46 million acres are either forested, farmed, or ranched. Therefore, Oregon's working lands can have a profound influence in meeting Oregon's CO<sub>2</sub> emission goals of 2050 through soil carbon sequestration practices.**

**Today working lands are net GHG emitters and indeed farming and forestry practices are the state's largest emitters of GHG. (1,2)**

**Neither group will be required to pay for carbon pollution with HB2020. I'm OK with that as long as you provide loud and clear instructions and incentives to these folks to do better, pollute less and become a clear part of the solution to the climate problem. But participation in climate smart forestry and agricultural practices to sequester carbon appear to be voluntary.**

**HB2020 does not make it entirely clear how carbon sequestration is going to be managed and tracked on agriculture lands. HB2020 mentions the State Board of Forestry involvement in overseeing sequestration efforts on Oregon's private and public forests with great clarity on tracking, accountability and management details, but does not explain how a parallel program would work on federal lands nor with agriculture.**

**The proposed bill provides no details on how farmers on Oregon's 16 million acres might qualify for smart farming financial incentives associated with grants and offsets from polluters. The overseer of such a program should be identified. If we can get 20% of these lands to enter smart farming, Oregon agricultural soils can sequester**

enough carbon to be emission neutral and may have credits left over to help in other areas.

The bill should address an educational outreach program to be offered to both farmers and foresters interested in knowing how to switch to smart 21st century carbon sequestering techniques. (3) We also need a described plan for field supervisors to assist those wanting to adopt sequestration technologies and then certifiers to quantify and track progress. (4, 5).

This bill HB2020 is perfect for (rural) Southern Oregon.

We need to protect our region's rich resources including working lands, it's fifth rank in the world ideal for seed production (crops and flowers), and its tourism and forestry resources. We have the technology to measure, to manage, and to sequester carbon into the soil. (6)

Land owners need clear financial incentives and educational programs to assist with their management changes to use carbon sequestering smart technologies.

Lastly, I suggest that education and certification programs be required to qualify for financial benefits that may be available through HB2020. Participants entering these educational programs should pay a nominal fee that leads to qualifying for financial benefits.

So bottom line for owners of working lands? Clarify instructions, provide incentives, launch an education, certification, and tracking program, charge nominal fee to participate.

Citations.

1. <https://sustainable-economy.org/osu-research-confirms-big-timber-leading-source-greenhouse-gas-emissions-oregon/>

**2. <https://www.oregon.gov/gov/Documents/1990-2016%20GHG%20Inventory%20Report%20for%20OCP.pdf>  
See Table A1, page 24.**

**3. <https://ccafs.cgiar.org/blog/gathering-momentum-around-soil-carbon-sequestration#.XD9d7FxKiMo>**

**4. <https://foodtank.com/news/2018/05/organizations-feeding-healing-world-regenerative-agriculture-2/>**

**5. [https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/advanced\\_soil\\_organic\\_matter\\_management](https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/advanced_soil_organic_matter_management)**

**6. [https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/aesa8494](https://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/aesa8494)**