I am Ethan Scarl, a retired physicist, now with the Alliance for Democracy and the Multnomah County Democrats' Climate Action Team.

I deeply appreciate the work you have done and are now doing to address our climate emergency.

We can negotiate with each other to achieve legislative compromises, but we can't negotiate with science, nor can we compromise with the laws of physics. These are nonnegotiable.

None of us want to live in climate emergency with the draconian measures that it requires, but those who would oppose these measures must understand that for each year of blockage, the next year's solutions will be significantly worse. Each year of blockage will mean that in all the years that follow, the requirements for survival will necessarily be more difficult and more painful. While we must try to minimize extreme hardship for vulnerable communities, doing any less than what is needed to meet 2050 goals will be passing on harsher burdens to the next year and to the next generation.

The bill we pass now must be one we would be proud of, if talking to our children or grandchildren, in 2050. In its present form, SB 1530 does not meet that standard.

I would also note that that last year's debacle was caused in part by gun safety legislation that brought in large numbers of gun rights activists. Hereafter, I would urge that we avoid proposing gun safety and climate emergency legislation in the same session.

I very much hope that you will be proposing a carbon mitigation bill that will pave the way to zero net CO2e emissions by 2030.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ethan A. Scarl The Alliance for Democracy and The Multnomah County Democrats' Climate Action

Team.