Dear Chair Dembrow,

I urge you to say "NO" to SB 1530 and the -27 amendments.

Farmers and ranchers are price takers not setters. We can not pass on additional costs to help alleviate increases in production expenses. I have calculated my family farm's increased expenses on fuel alone for the first year to be over \$13,000. With thin operation margins, any increase in costs can be devastating.

These new amendments (-27) penalize and discriminate against farmers like me who live and farm on the west side of the state by taxing our fuels in the first years. This tax creates a competitive disadvantage among farmers and ranchers across counties. It is just plain BAD POLICY and an economic hardship.

The -27 amendments weaken protection for farmers like me and many others who rely on natural gas to process our raw crops for market. We are at a huge disadvantage in today's global market with cap and trade and the -27 amendments only squeezes farmers and ranchers on the west side of the state even harder.

What has happened to the commitment to protect Oregon agriculture?

Please, I urge you to vote 'NO' on HB 1530.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Sincerely,

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