

From: [Steve Cook](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Testimony in support of SB 1530
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Senator Michael Dembrow
Chair, Senate Interim Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

February 7, 2020

Testimony in support of SB 1530, and taking climate action now

Senator Dembrow:

I urge the legislature to pass SB 1530 this session to reduce carbon emissions and catalyze investments in natural climate solutions.

The science is clear. By burning fossil fuels, we are rapidly warming the earth, doing great harm to people and nature. If we act boldly now, we can limit the damage, while also providing cleaner air. And I'm convinced that shifting from a fossil fuels economy to a clean energy economy will be good for Oregon, and will give our economy a boost.

I understand that certain rural interests/the timber industry have concerns. I believe those concerns are unfounded, particularly with the current bill, which has compromised extensively to respond to those concerns. Our rural brothers and sisters have more at risk from global warming than anyone, as global warming decreases snowpacks and summer river flows, makes droughts more common, increases forest diseases, supercharges wildfires, and makes it harder to grow traditional Oregon crops.

I applaud the inclusion of funding for natural climate solutions on forests and other lands. This is a good way to use the strengths we have in Oregon due to our forests and other lands, and it's a good way to provide economic opportunities for economically challenged rural communities.

For the sake of all Oregonians, including future generations of Oregonians, let's pass this cap and invest bill.

Thanks.

Stephen F. Cook

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