

**From:** [Beth Parmenter](#)  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Cc:** [Sen Steiner Hayward](#); [sen.elizabethsteinerhayward@public.govdelivery.com](mailto:sen.elizabethsteinerhayward@public.govdelivery.com)  
**Subject:** Senate Bill 1530  
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Hello, my name is Beth Parmenter. I am a retired Oncology RN of 32 years living in Portland. I also volunteer in a variety of community organizations including some that support migrant farm workers.

Thank you for continuing to work on the critical issue of climate change. I believe it is imperative that we pass strong climate legislation in 2020 because we are now facing a true climate emergency. We no longer have time for half baked measures – we have put action off for too long.

Many individuals are already reducing their carbon pollution in their own lives. We need large corporate polluters to be held accountable for what they produce and we need a system that will ensure their reduction quickly and permanently. Some argue that ‘the market’ should be allowed to reduce climate pollution but this will be too little too late. The market has had a chance and while it has helped, it has not succeeded anywhere near the degree necessary. We need emergent action now!

Making the change we need can be difficult, although it will be exponentially more difficult the longer we wait. I strongly support legislation that will invest in the communities that will be hit hardest – rural communities, communities of color and poor communities. As we turn our excessive carbon use around, we can create jobs and programs that will help sustain and heal instead of degrade and destroy.

Last session some said “We don’t have much carbon pollution in Oregon so we can’t make a difference”. But we do contribute to climate pollution and we all know that people and states joining together can create a much greater force for change. We have to start somewhere and we need strong leaders who can help lead us through these difficult times.

I urge you with all my heart and mind to BE those leaders and to face this emergency straight on and take action NOW. As a nurse, I have learned that it never helps to turn your face away from an emergency – things only get worse. I urge you to pass Senate Bill 1530 as soon as possible.

Thank you,

Beth Parmenter  
2433 NW Quimby St, Unit 3  
Portland OR 97210

Sent from my iPhone