

Members of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

Thank you for the time and effort you have put into bringing Oregon's climate action plan to its current form of SB 1530. I am pleased to see the changes that have been made since LC 19 that address some of the concerns that I voiced in my testimony for that LC (fractured transportation zones leading to shifting consumption, representation of and allocation to impacted communities, relief for low-income Oregonians for fuel price increases), though I hope to see the bill strengthened in the coming days in terms of requiring all businesses that emit GHGs to pay, even if giving some fraction of allowances as relief for trade exposed businesses. Also, I urge you to remove the requirement of non-impact to wood fiber supply (Section 26), as we should be giving our forest land owners the freedom to operate in the offset market that the bill creates.

As someone in their mid-30s, whenever I see the small children of my friends and when I think about the possibility of having one of my own, I feel the imperative for our generation to push forward this movement to make change happen. We cannot afford to wait another year. Although Oregon contributes a small fraction of the national emissions, passing this bill will show that a state of our size, with large agriculture and manufacturing sectors, can implement an economy-wide cap. In the current state of national politics, states must lead the way to meaningful systemic change to combat climate change. Therefore I strongly support the passing of a strong climate bill this session. Should there be a ballot initiative to repeal, I will be out there canvassing for votes to reject it.

Thank you again for your work for the state.

Sincerely,
Eugenia Tam
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Constituent of Sen. Frederick and Rep. Kotek