

Dear Honorable Oregon Legislators,

I am writing in Opposition for SB1530 as it stands. I have lived in Oregon since 1971 and I spent my summers picking berries and beans, and enjoyed a rural way of life. Today I still do enjoy rural life. I agree that we need to deal with emissions, but this over reaching plan will negatively affect all Oregonians, and I believe that we need to table this for full session, and get it right. Include the stake holders in meetings and learn from those who have generational experience in taking care of our land.

While the control of emissions will lower our footprint for Oregon, which is relatively small, it will create other footprints with much larger impact on our environment. Oregon has self-managed its emissions for decades. When we look at the relative increase in emissions versus the increase of users of power, resources, etc. in Oregon we have done a tremendous part in protecting our environment. We have enacted laws to protect our environment with heavy penalties for those who outright abuse the land and air, so why not enforce what we already have and not penalize those who are the backbone of our great state?

Of bigger concern, the states exertion on type and use of power private citizens may use to heat homes, cook with, and drive with are not only expensive propositions, but also create a system which is ripe for control and abuse of the citizens. I speak of this first hand, as my family escaped from USSR. Our family farm was turned into a State owned farm where the government determined what was raised, and where the food would go, and who worked it, and what wages were paid. Sadly, our grains and milk most often were exported to other countries who paid high prices to line the governmental pockets. The land owners were relocated and retrained to work jobs in the city where they were crowded into apartments often sharing one phone line at the end of the hall, and rationed on food, water, electric and heating oils. We were not there , but my grandmother and aunt stayed. My grandmother, became a brick layer, a physical job for a young man, not an old lady. My aunt (Sophia Bulgaria, Portland's sister city) who was raising two kids, found that her energy consumption ration was not enough to last the full month. The ration could not be enlarged by offering to pay more money (which we tried to do from America) and resources we shipped were taken by the government. She would suffer in the middle of winter, with no heat, no electricity to cook sometimes for 10 days of the month. She would stand in lines for food, as food was also rationed by the 1970s, and she was happy to get spoiled meat and moldy bread. She dared not complain, or she may get nothing.

HB 1533 at its best, feels like another excuse to bring dollars to the capitol not a true effort to reduce the impact on our world. Or perhaps at its worst, is the beginning of your socialist agendas, hoping that the kids are too stupid to know the real impact on them and their families in the future. But if you are honestly looking at how to help our climate, then you definitely need to research and understand before implementing any plan.

For example, this plan calls for increase in "green" solar power. How green is it really? Solar panels, which are no longer created in the United State due to the toxic chemical waste are now produced primarily in China. They are mined from rare precious metal and quartz, causing health issues to the miners and destroying the ecology of the land. They are then mixed with hydrochloric acid in super-heated in furnaces, and create a very toxic compound called silicon tetrachloride. In 2008 in China, the largest producer of solar panels for power, owned by Luoyang Zhonggui High-Technology Co., located near the Yellow River in the country's Henan province dumped their waste product on neighboring fields, fields which were used to produce food, for Chinese and Americans alike. In 2011 Jinko Holding Company dumped hydrofluoric acid used by the company for solar-panel manufacturing into the local river. The contaminated river water, killing hundreds of fish and dozens of pigs, and made

the water no longer suitable for human consumption. To be clear, we are not stopping anything with this bill, we are only shifting the burden to countries where they don't care. How will that change our children's future since it is a global issue?

When critically looking at the footprint of "produced in Oregon" (lumber, grains, cattle, hogs, textiles, milk, and on and on), versus produced elsewhere and how HB1533 impacts health, liberty, life, of Oregonians and others, we need to truly weigh and balance using open minds, not ones with a predetermined outcome, ignoring solid facts. Farmers/ranchers/loggers/fisherman all have a footprint and we don't deny that. However, when looking at the alternatives, an equivalent production footprint remains, and in addition we will have foods produced farther away, which need to be transported to Oregon over thousands of miles. Additionally, foods grown in other countries such as Canada, China, Mexico do not have the same stringent policies relating to animal cruelty, health and safety standards (use of antibiotics, steroids, growth hormones, and acceptance of sick animals) and sanitation in processing facilities. This has impact on every man, woman and child in this state.

If we really believe it is ok to create a system of taxation and state requirements as cited in HB2007 that will put many small family farms, truckers and all related industries out of business. In doing this, you are turning your backs on "local Oregon" initiatives, because the small and large local suppliers will suffer greatly. This hurts Oregon. Oregon must protect those who protect our natural resources the best-- The farmer, the rancher, the woodmen, who rely on the ability of the resource to continue to produce so these generational farms can be sustainable as they have for the last century. They know if they trash our land, our air, our water...they will be out of business.

Finally, Oregon/US prides itself in not having child labor, In fact they made laws against it for national and state businesses. yet our state by enacting the SB1533 climate plan doesn't fix anything for the climate, it just shifts the burden to other states, other countries and often as in the case of solar power, to China, a country that routinely abuses the land, waterways and the children laborers.

This bill only placates the minds that we are doing something, Please do not sign onto SB1533 until all the impacts are weighed and all stakeholders have opportunity to help provide a reasonable bill with a significant impact.

On a side note, due policies and economic issues created by both state and federal policy decisions we closed our ranch in 2008. Our ranch provided well-paying jobs, and insurance for a dozen employees. They supported their families, and they purchased local goods from local businesses who in turn paid wages to employees to support their families. Now, in 2020 – SB1530, the CAT tax (2019 but just now implementing), and all the rest of the new taxes and directives that have been created behind closed doors while placating stakeholder with meetings (with outcomes predetermined), have supported our decisions to close our GREEN electronic company in Oregon. The economic impact is no longer bearable, and we will take our business to another state, where we can again hire people and contribute to the community, rather than the Oregon politicians and the bloated Salem Government.

Theresa Denham