Good morning,

As the vote nears regarding SB 1530, I write to express my concerns with this proposed legislation. Traditionally, I find myself leaning left on nearly all topics, however I do not support this bill. As an internal medicine physician, advocating for the social determinants of health, including mitigating climate change, is critical to promoting individual patient care. That being said, I am extremely concerned about the impact the cap and trade bill will have on our lower income communities, both urban and rural. As I watch the price of heating a home rise during mild Portland winter weather, even before this tax is implemented, I worry about our constituents who struggle with the rising cost of living in Portland, in Medford or Prineville where the average income is already significantly lower and a large portion of work relies on vehicular transport, and many other areas of the state where our working class colleagues struggle to make ends meet.

This bill unequally penalizes those who do not have the means to support it while not providing assistance to offset this in already at risk communities. I do not support this bill in its current form and would be disappointed if it was adopted as is.

Thank you,

Laura Holton, MD

Sent from my iPhone