

From: [Karen and Steve Murray](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 1530
Date: Monday, February 10, 2020 3:04:35 PM

To whom it may concern,

My name is Steve Murray and I live in The Dalles. I have lived in rural Eastern Oregon since 1962. I have worked in agriculture, the forest products industry and in mining. I was also a High School and Middle School Science teacher for 26 years. I strongly support SB 1530.

Oregon used to be a national and even world leader in environmental policy. We helped lead the country with our original Bottle Bill. When it was recognized that CFCs were destroying our ozone layer (without which, life cannot survive on dry land), Oregon led the world in CFC reduction by banning their use in aerosols.

Now the world faces a climate emergency caused by CO₂ released into our atmosphere by human activity, primarily the burning of fossil fuels. The United States has led the world in release of CO₂ for the majority of the Industrial Revolution and is responsible for more than half of the excess CO₂ in our atmosphere.

The expected rise in global temperatures resulting from this extra CO₂ will disrupt our entire ecosystem. The oceans are warming and becoming more acidic. Increased ocean temperature will lead to more extreme weather events and reduce the survivability of fish and other sea creatures that are a major source of income for the state. Jobs will be lost. Warmer temperatures will likely reduce snow packs in Oregon, leading to shorter ski seasons. Jobs will be lost. Also, lower snow packs are likely to lead to longer fire season in our forests. Burned trees are less marketable for lumber. Jobs will be lost. Increased likelihood of drought will negatively impact agriculture. Jobs will be lost.

Even if we hold our CO₂ emissions to current levels, this will not slow the inevitable ravages of climate change. We must reduce our emissions and find ways to sequester the carbon we have already released. To say Oregon is too small to make a difference is selfish and shortsighted. To claim it is too expensive to change our ways now, is to ignore the astronomical cost of dealing with the coming disaster. Please pass SB 1530 and bring Oregon back into the lead on environmental issues.

Sincerely,

Steve Murray