

February 13, 2020

Jonathan Harker, AICP
SD 23 & HD 45

The Honorable Michael Dembrow, Chair
Senate Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 1530 with the -35 Amendments

Dear Chair Dembrow and Member of the Committee:

Last week I presented oral testimony in support of SB 1530-27. I have reviewed the summary of the -35 amendments provided by Senator Dembrow and scanned those changes in the -35 amended bill posted in OLIS. I continue to support the bill and urge you to move it to Ways and Means with a do pass recommendation.

I believe that creating the cap, trade and invest program provided in SB 1530-35 begins the important work of:

- Reducing and sequestering GHG's emitted in Oregon. I know that you have received testimony that Oregon is "too minuscule to make a difference". However any reduction in GHG emissions is positive and the fact is that Oregon emits more GHG's than over 100 countries who signed the Paris Climate Accords including Bulgaria, Ecuador, Finland, Hungary, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Peru and Sweden.
- Most importantly funding projects that we help Oregonians and our economy adapt to the changes we are already seeing due to climate change and that will become more pronounce in the future.
- Providing meaningful agency for those Oregonians most impacted by climate change and just transition as Oregon (and the nation) move from fossil fuel to renewable energy systems.
- Continuing and increasing the momentum of States taking action to price carbon and invest in the resiliency of their communities especially in the absence of leadership and action at the Federal level.

As a father of two millennial-aged sons who have grown up in Oregon I have vested and personal reason to be concerned about their future as Oregonians in the face of climate change.

Professionally I am a retired City land use planner having spent most of my career with the City of Gresham As a city planner I worked with my community to both understand and then act on what needs to happen in regard to how land is used to ensure that the community is safe, healthy, has a strong economy to participate in and, really, can thrive. That work focused on not just thinking and acting on what needs to happen today but what needs to happen in 10 and 30 years and beyond.

That is a complex thing to do. And that is what your are doing by creating a program to implement the Oregon Greenhouse Gas Initiative. SB 1530 It is not just about happens next year but rather what needs to happen for 2030 and 2050 for Oregon communities to thrive in the face of the impacts of climate change.

Thank you for the work you are doing to help all Oregonian thrive in the face of climate change as well as all the hard work you do as Oregon legislators.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Harker, AICP