

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Olsen, members of the Committee:

My name is Connie Peterson. I am a native Oregonian, and the mother of two professionals in their mid-thirties who are so worried about the future of this planet that they have decided not become parents themselves. This makes me very sad.

I traveled from Bend today to voice for my support of SB 1530 DASH 27.

As you know, this legislation would establish a MARKET-BASED program to put a statewide limit on carbon emissions, and hold the largest polluters in our state accountable for the damage they are doing to our planet-- our air, our water, our health, and fund INVESTMENTS to mitigate, or help Oregonians adapt to, the multiple threats of climate change.

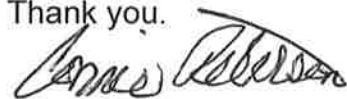
Well-funded opponents have framed the policy debate you now hear as a battle between the urban, "liberal" I-5 corridor and our state's rural, largely conservative expanses. They claim "out-of-touch Democrats" are using their legislative supermajority to run roughshod over loggers, ranchers, and other working people. In actuality this is about large corporations who want to continue doing business as usual spreading misinformation and fear. Many of those who would actually benefit economically from a cap and invest program have been scared into loudly and visibly opposing it. This is also profoundly sad.

With significant concessions to rural Oregon, specified investments in communities most impacted by climate change, a Just Transition fund and a role in implementation for those constituencies, there is actually no reasonable justification for Republican Senators to oppose, let alone deny a vote on, this bill.

While I would have *personally* preferred an even stronger bill, bottom line, we cannot afford to make the perfect the enemy of the possible. We are already seeing the impacts of climate chaos and the cost of doing nothing is too high. We are running out of time and we SHARE a moral imperative to address this emergency.

Ten years in the crafting, SB1530 is unfinished business, and must be enacted in this "short session."

Thank you.



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