Committee members,

I am asking you to vote no on Senate Bill 1530. I am very vocal about good stewardship of Oregon and our resources. We should make that a priority and be proactive for our environment but this bill is incredibly short sighted and narrow minded.

Taxing pollution will not stop pollution.

There are better ways to go about change than devastating families, driving farmers of their land, and forcing more people into poverty.

This bill will force the mid to low income into even lower income brackets and this bill favors the rich and powerful even more, creating an even larger gap in Oregon. Looking at the ripple effect you can easily see that as those taxes, and a reduction of Oregon services and products, low to mid income families will be impacted at a higher percentage than the wealthy in our state. Me, paying an additional $2000 a year out of my small income is more of a hardship than for those who have much higher incomes. Again, this drives a larger wedge between the upper and lower classes.

As all of those farms and farmers have to get rid of their machinery and vehicles- where will those go? Will they be buried with the wind turbines? How will you compensate them for the loss of livelihood? How will you replace that income? Will there be programs to retrain them? What will become of empty farms? How will our local economy be impacted as all of those trades die? How will our lower income folks, who cannot afford gas now, be able to commute to work?

Oregon can do better. You can do better. There are other things that we can do to encourage positive change that will not devastate Oregon.

I want to remind you, we only contribute 0.1% in carbon emissions and our rural counties contribute 0.0004%.

I want to challenge you to do better, to create legislation that makes contributions where it will make an impact. This bill will not make any kind of impact to our climate or environment, the only thing it will do is create more bureaucracy and poverty.

April Burbank
St.Helens, Oregon

Sent from my iPhone