

I have been a volunteer with Citizens' Climate Lobby for the past seven years – where I currently serve as the Oregon State Coordinator.

I would like to take this opportunity to address the submitted statement from the Oregon Farm Bureau that requests the state legislature “wait and see what legislation is introduced during this Congress around climate change instead of supporting legislation that is no longer pending in front of Congress.”

We at CCL respectfully submit that waiting is not an option. If Oregonians want their voices heard, the time to weigh in is now. Climate is a year-one priority for President Biden and, though decisions about the design of his program are still taking shape, it is a small window. Florida Congressman Deutch (original sponsor of the bill) has clearly expressed his interest in re-introducing this legislation early in this Congress. We recommend you take Congressman Deutch at his word, and ensure that the voices of Oregonians are heard in time to form one of Biden's top priorities.

I would also like to address the Oregon Farm Bureau's submittal that they, “encourage the legislature to evaluate that legislation to determine its benefit and impact on Oregon, and support only voluntary, market- and incentive-based solutions that are proposed by this Congress.”

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act addresses the concerns of farmers by exempting fuel used on farms to grow our food and crops while using a market-based method to address the increasingly risky business of farming in a changing climate.

CCL is committed to supporting all industry sectors with bipartisan legislative efforts that will help in the energy and economic transition necessary to address the threat of climate change. For example, CCL also supports the Growing Climate Solutions Act, which is supported by the American Farm Bureau, and designed to create a revenue stream for farmers to shift into regenerative practices and sequester carbon out of the atmosphere and into the soil.

I believe most Oregonians would support you in calling for a ‘Far Middle’ approach to climate change. Impactful, Equitable, and Fair to citizens, farmers, foresters, entrepreneurs, and families. What is there not to like?

Sincerely,  
Daniela Brod