

Submitter: Harriet Cooke  
On Behalf Of: Congregation Pnai Or of Portland  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery  
Measure: SB1534

I am writing on behalf of my congregation and our values of a Justice and a sustainable, healthy future for all. We strongly support SB 1534, implementing practices on Oregon's Natural and working lands to increase carbon storage and sequestration. We know that we are failing miserably to lower carbon emissions, and even if we could, the current levels of carbon in our atmosphere will stay up there contributing to our climate emergency for 20-200 years (65-80% of carbon), and the remaining percentage taking hundreds of years to break down.

Serious efforts to drawdown the carbon are critical for a livable future where the temperatures of the earth do not inhibit the growth and health of our forests and soils to sequester carbon. These efforts are critical and urgent and SB 1534 will help us move in this direction. Significant co-benefits include planting trees in urban areas to reduce heat island effects, improving resilience of fire prone forests, and creating jobs in rural communities.

Thank you for moving forward with this bill and helping it pass in this short session.