

**Testimony to the
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery
of the Oregon Legislature**

February 8, 2022

David Ford
Principal, L&C Carbon
Commissioner, Oregon Global Warming Commission
Senior Fellow, American Forest Foundation

Testimony in support of Senate Bill 1534 -2 Amendment

Introduction

- Professional forester with over 40 years of field and policy work experience in federal government, non-profits, and private business
- Past 12 years working in the forest carbon field – in 2010, founded L&C Carbon to assist forest owners in expanding their revenue streams, in part by selling carbon into the voluntary and regulated markets
- L&C Carbon is a project developer of forest carbon projects -- in Oregon developed projects totaling over 600,000 acres – examples, City of Astoria (voluntary) and Green Diamond Resource Company (CARB)
- Voting Commissioner, Oregon Global Warming Commission
- Senior Fellow, American Forest Foundation – leading forest carbon initiatives.

Chair Gordon and committee members:

For the record, my name is David Ford. I am a resident of Dundee, Oregon. I am here today in several roles, principal of a small business based in Yamhill County – L&C Carbon, voting member of the Oregon Global Warming Commission, and Senior Fellow of the American Forest Foundation.

The American Forest Foundation is a non-profit conservation organization that helps protect and measurably increase the clean water, wildlife habitat, sustainable wood supplies, and climate mitigation that come from family-owned forests. The Foundation is based in Washington DC and operates programs across the U.S., including in Oregon.

On behalf of the American Forest Foundation and my small business, I urge the Committee's support of SB 1534 -2 amendment.

SB 1534 creates a framework to advance the strategies identified in the Natural and Working Lands Report, adopted by the Oregon Global Warming Commission in 2021 after broad stakeholder engagement.

Although the Oregon Global Warming Commissions established natural and working land sequestration targets in its 2021 report to the Oregon Legislature, this bill is an important first step in further understanding and measuring performance of natural and working lands against these targets. This bill will:

- Establish the policy direction to advance carbon sequestration and storage and resilience strategies on Oregon's natural and working lands.

- Create an NWL Advisory Group at the Oregon Global Warming Commission (OGWC) representing a diversity of stakeholders and providing the public an opportunity for engagement.
- Direct Oregon State University to develop metrics, an NWL inventory, and a workforce and economic development study, through collaboration with the Advisory Group.
- Direct state agencies to report on metrics and the inventory.

The initial steps included in the bill will allow Oregon to move forward in setting metrics to measure how well our natural and working lands are sequestering and storing carbon. This bill will set the stage for helping us understand the economic, social, and environmental tradeoffs between various carbon sequestration strategies.

Thank you.