



Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
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February 13, 2023

To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources

From: Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District (JSWCD)

Re: Support for SB 530 – Natural Climate Solutions

Chair Golden and Committee Members,

JSWCD serves Jackson County by protecting our natural resources through education and technical assistance to implement voluntary conservation in partnership with private landowners and federal, state, and nonprofit partners.

JSWCD supports SB 530 which takes several positive actions to advance climate solutions in natural and working lands. Establishing state policy to move in this direction is fundamentally important, and the policies established by the bill are strong and inclusive of what needs to be done. The bill furthers the policies by establishing a Natural and Working Lands Fund and by setting in motion the establishment of baseline conditions and metrics so that we can monitor progress as we move forward.

We recognize that promoting natural climate solutions has many related benefits including productive and healthy forests, farmlands, rangelands and natural environments that result in clean water, healthy habitats for fish and wildlife, resilience to wildfire and other extreme events, and aesthetically pleasing surroundings for all to enjoy.

We fully appreciate the effort and thoughtful approach laid out in this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input.

Stan Dean, Chair of the Board
Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District
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