

Submitter: Dean Moberg

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB530

Chair Golden and members of the Committee, for the record my name is Dean Moberg. I am a director with the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 530. My testimony is on my behalf and not on behalf of the Tualatin Conservation District.

I have worked on farms in California, Illinois, and New York and then served for 35 years as a USDA soil conservationist, helping farmers and foresters in Michigan, Wisconsin, and eastern and western Oregon. My dissertation at OHSU focused on the mineralization of organic matter in Willamette Valley farm soils. I co-authored a book, *The Soils of Oregon*, published in 2022. Also in 2022, I co-facilitated “climate-smarter forestry” workshops with forest owners, consultants, agencies, and organizations in a Coast Range forest.

As you know, climate change is largely driven by devastating increases in atmospheric carbon dioxide. The good news is that soil and vegetation together hold about four times as much carbon as the atmosphere and have the capacity to capture much more carbon. Increased soil carbon means more resilient crops and forests, cleaner water, and improved economics for Oregonians, especially in rural communities.

Senate Bill 530 is a common sense, practical approach to help Oregon farmers, ranchers, foresters, natural lands managers, and the agencies and organizations that support them sequester carbon in soil and vegetation, fight climate change, and ensure Oregon remains a productive and beautiful state.

Please vote YES on SB 530.

Thank you.