

February 14, 2023

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony of SB 530: the Natural Climate Solutions Bill. My name is Julia Weinand and I am writing in support of SB 530.

I recently graduated from the University of Portland where I studied environmental science. Because of my studies and my strong belief in climate justice, I see great value in the incentives that would be created by SB 530.

Natural climate solutions are just that – natural. Their implementation is logical as natural climate solutions both sequester the atmospheric carbon that is causing climate change, as well as increase local resilience to climate disasters.

In particular, I have studied natural climate solutions such as reduced tilling, cover-cropping, and rotational grazing, each of which allow for healthier soils. The only cons to such solutions are that they can be more costly and time-intensive for the landowners which is why this bill is so important. SB 530 would allow landowners to invest in more sustainable practices without putting them in a financially-precarious position.

If we want to continue reaping the benefits of the land, then we must also steward the land. SB 530 would increase Oregonians capacity to do just that.

For these reasons, I strongly urge you to vote YES on SB 530. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Julia Weinand