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14 February, 2023

Chair Golden and Members  
Senate Committee on Natural Resources  
State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Support for SB 530, Natural Climate Solutions

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Dear Chair Golden and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 530. 1000 Friends of Oregon is a nonprofit, membership organization that has worked with Oregonians for more than 45 years to support livable urban and rural communities; protect family farms, forests and natural areas; and provide transportation and housing choices.

The legislature has a vital opportunity this session to support and invest in climate-smart land management practices in Oregon by supporting SB 530. This bill incorporates recommendations from the Oregon Global Warming Commission's [Natural and Working Lands Proposal](#), which was placed in the record for this hearing by Senator Dembrow. That proposal was created through a process that included significant research and robust public input. 1000 Friends of Oregon was deeply involved in coalition work that provided inputs into the creation of that proposal, and I now serve on the Oregon Global Warming Commission's committee that is advising on the implementation of the recommendations in that proposal.

SB 530 will fund and direct state agencies to provide incentives and technical support to forest owners, farmers, and ranchers to implement natural climate solutions on natural and working lands. It will also invest in a comprehensive Oregon natural and working lands inventory and study opportunities for workforce development and training.

Having SB 530 in place will be critical to leveraging historic federal funding that can help Oregon's farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners lead on climate solutions and reward their stewardship. The legislature must make the most of this unprecedented opportunity to achieve our climate sequestration and resilience goals and ensure that communities with the greatest need can benefit from these funds.

It is worth noting that the programs envisioned in SB 530 are voluntary and incentive based, and that their impacts go beyond climate. The practices that would be funded offer simple, proven solutions that go beyond reducing the future impacts of climate change. They are also

proven to create more resilient landscapes and help communities and land managers by lessening the impacts of drought, heatwaves, flooding, and wildfire.

We urge you to support SB 530. Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Holmes', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Greg Holmes  
Food Systems Program Director  
1000 Friends of Oregon