

Submitter: Naomi Hemstreet

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB530

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

My name is Naomi Hemstreet. I am 16 years old and live in Multnomah County. I am a climate justice activist with Sunrise Movement PDX.

I support SB 530 because advancing natural climate solutions will help prevent the effects of climate change and is crucial to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

Throughout the last few years, I have seen the worsening effects of the climate crisis. My community has suffered from ice storms, heat waves, and wildfires. I have seen trees cracked in half and splayed across icy roads. I have seen insects and animals dying because of 115 degree temperatures. I have seen red suns and ash-filled yellow skies. These extreme weather events are all exacerbated by climate change, and SB 530 can help prevent this from happening in the future.

SB 530 will provide incentives and technical support to forest owners, ranchers, and farmers to help them develop natural climate solutions to increase our carbon sequestration and increase the resilience of our environment and communities. Supporting SB 530 means supporting legislation that will reduce the impacts of climate change so we can all have a safe future. It means strengthening our state's natural resource economy, so that the communities that depend on it will be able to prosper. It means protecting the forests, water, and lands that are an integral part of Oregon's identity.

I want to live in a world where I don't have to fear what climate disaster is next. I want to think about summer without associating it with dangerous wildfires. I want to be able to hike in healthy forests and canoe in clean lakes. I want a future that is sustainable for us all.

I urge you to vote yes on SB 530 so that together, we can achieve the vision of a resilient, safe Oregon.

Thank you,
Naomi Hemstreet (16)
Portland SD 23