

Submitter: Noah Langenwalter  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment  
Measure: SB1559

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB1559, which I strongly support.

As the father of a young son, I have worked hard to understand the climate crisis and how it will affect his future. What I have learned is almost too terrible to bear: that we have leveraged the long-term prosperity of our entire civilization and the ecosystems upon which it depends for short-term economic growth and convenience.

Those debts are now coming due. According to the latest IPCC reports, anthropogenic climate change is already contributing to droughts, heat waves, fires, floods, and other extreme weather events and that we're on track to making things even worse. The science is clear that the danger of inaction is existential. Without rapid, transformative action to decarbonize, extreme weather will increase, climate tipping points will be reached, ecosystems across the planet will collapse, species extinction will accelerate, large populations will be displaced, and the industrial food system will be unable to feed everyone.

Our children deserve to grow up with the prospect of a hopeful future ahead. They can only do this if they see us moving as dramatically and as swiftly as possible toward total decarbonization. Aligning the state's greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals with this reality, as SB1559 would do, is a foundational step toward taking that necessary action. It enables us to hold ourselves accountable to the generations that will inherit the world we leave them.

I encourage you to support this bill. Further, I ask that you become similarly alarmed by this danger, if you are not already, and that you expand your imagination for what action is possible beyond what is currently politically feasible.

Sincerely,  
Noah Langenwalter  
Hillsboro, OR