

Submitter: Patricia Hine

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On  
Natural Resources

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5520

Dear Esteemed Co-Chairs Frederick & Levy, and Members,

Thank you for taking my testimony. My name is Patricia Hine and I am a retired Navy Commander, college instructor, rural Lane County farmer and community organizer. I am writing to urge you support the Department of Environmental Quality Budget with SB 5520. You are responsible for regulating and protecting communities from climate pollution, so the strongest possible funding for DEQ is vital to ensuring Oregon achieves its climate goals and protects our citizens.

Since federal leadership for protecting natural resources on which we all depend for clean air, soil and water are being dismantled, we depend on YOU, our state elected leaders to step in and take the steps needed to ensure Oregonians' safety and health. Regulating polluters and transitioning to an equitable clean energy economy spells more and better jobs for working people.

We know we're running out of time to enact meaningful policies that will mitigate the worst effects coming as a result of burning fossil fuels, so time is of the essence. Don't delay. Don't negotiate. Give the Oregon DEQ what it needs to implement our essential programs.

Thank you.