

From: Eric Lemelson
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 1507
Date: Thursday, February 08, 2018 8:54:37 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of SB 1507, the Clean Energy Jobs bill now pending.

I write as the owner of two Oregon based businesses, one a winery (www.lemelsonvineyards.com), with several dozen employees, global distribution, and annual sales of more than \$3,000,000, as well as Karuna Consortium, a Portland-based property development company that focuses on energy efficient commercial building design and construction.

We designed and built One North, a commercial building in North Portland recognized nationally for its energy efficient design and commitment to Oregon values of clean energy and local job creation.

I have also lived in Oregon since 1979, and am a graduate of two local institutions of higher learning, Reed College and Lewis and Clark Law School.

I support SB 1507 for **two related reasons**: 1. clean energy jobs are not the jobs of some theoretical "future" - **they are the growth areas of the modern economy**. Solar energy has been growing at the fastest annual rate of any energy source over the last several years, and the cost per watt of installed solar energy has decreased every year for many years, much faster than even the most optimistic estimates of a decade ago. There is a VERY good reason that our most compelling high tech success stories, including Google and Apple, are transitioning to renewable energy sources NOW, not later.

Solar creates jobs - period! SB 1507 will create jobs in RURAL OREGON - parts of the State that have seen overall slower job growth than urban Oregon. And this is also true of wind power and other renewables.

Oil, coal and natural gas have (and continue to) benefit from billions of dollars of subsidies over many decades. They cause climate change, health problems, environmental damage, and many other so-called "externalities" that are rarely, if ever measured. The modest steps outlined in this legislation will reap enormous benefits for all of us in the years to come. All we need to do is have the intelligence and leadership to take this step, now.

It makes business sense, and it is the right thing to do.

2. The public supports clean energy - every poll shows this, overwhelmingly. The polls tell us what has been obvious for quite some time - our public officials need to listen to their voters and support this bill.

One thing is clear - once you install solar or wind energy infrastructure, the fuel cost is - zero. The economic benefits are compelling, and will get more so over time. And the benefits to future generations are immeasurable.

The broad public knows this. I hope that members of the Oregon Legislature are listening.
I urge members of the Oregon Legislature on both sides of the aisle to support SB 1507,
sincerely,

Eric Lemelson, Founder and Owner
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Karuna Consortium
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Portland, Oregon
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