

**From:** [Malia Hewitt](#)  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** LC 19 rural Oregon student testimony for strong climate action.  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 22, 2020 1:30:35 PM

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To: Chair Dembrow, Vice Chair Olsen and Members of the Senate Interim Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

I am a 15 year old high school student from Sweet Home, Oregon. Growing up in a small rural town.

It is false to believe there are only two choices: tackle climate change or stand up for our rural communities. There is a way to help smaller communities to thrive and for us to do our part to reduce carbon emissions. Rural communities can lead the green revolution by adopting carbon capturing regenerative agriculture, investing in local and renewable fuels, and watershed restoration.

The world's scientists continue to raise the alarm and insist that action is needed now. There is no time to waste, we must reduce our fossil fuel use. I know that we can reduce our carbon emissions while also protecting and improving rural jobs and our environment.

We must fight for rural jobs, while also transitioning to clean economy that will secure those jobs along with a sustainable future. We can have a healthy rural economy and demand action on climate change at the same time. My future depends on everyday Americans coming together and uniting behind the facts and sustainable solutions! Please join me in supporting legislation that is united behind science and please make LC 19 strong enough to reduce climate pollution from natural gas and transportation across the state.

Malia Hewitt