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

My name is Susan Christie and I'm a long-time Oregonian from Corvallis. Thank you for your continued work on the critical issue of the climate emergency, but I wish you didn't have to be doing it.

We don't have much time to save what we love: the beautiful environment of our state, our clean air and water, our healthy food. We need strong legislation to protect our environment and ensure a future for our children, and to provide economic opportunities, new jobs, and clean energy.

Some ideas for improving SB 1530:

The transportation part of the bill needs to be fixed to ensure that all oil companies pay their fair share, no matter where they're located. Oil companies are the largest source of pollution in our state and we cannot allow them to continue doing that.

As written, this bill would pay fossil fuel polluters to continue business as usual. That's patently absurd! We should pay them to convert to clean energy! They have to take responsibility for the destruction they are causing.

The bill also should guarantee investments in communities hardest hit by the climate crisis -- rural, low-income areas, indigenous peoples, and communities of color. Those Oregonians deserve a guarantee, not a weak hope.

Please, oh please, take action that will make a real difference in this emergency. We can't just make a token effort and turn our backs while our forests burn, our fish die, and water runs out in parts of our state. We can't wait any longer.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Christie

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