

From: [Michael Wherley](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 1530: STRONG CLIMATE ACTION TESTIMONY
Date: Thursday, January 23, 2020 4:44:25 PM

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

Thank you for your continued work on the critical issue of the climate emergency. I implore you to make it happen in this legislative session.

It's obvious that federal action will be delayed, making it all the more important to take the initiative on the state level. And the benefits for Oregonians will be substantial, in new good jobs, reductions in fuel costs and pollution, improvements in health and a healthier environment.

We need improvements to the transportation portion of the bill so 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 must pay their share toward solutions to the crisis they have fostered.

As written, this bill would pay fossil fuel polluters to continue business as usual. We can't afford business as usual. We cannot allow legislation to move forward that is climate action in name only, while it fails to hold large polluters accountable.

This bill needs a guarantee in investments in communities hardest hit by the climate crisis -- rural, low-income, Tribes, and communities of color. While there are aspirations to prioritize those communities in the current version, Oregonians deserve a guarantee.

Please get this done in this session. Generations of Oregonians of all species are counting on you.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Wherley

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