

From: [Theodora Tsongas](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 1530: STRONG CLIMATE ACTION TESTIMONY
Date: Thursday, January 23, 2020 7:01:39 PM

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

My name is Dr. Theodora Tsongas, I'm an environmental health scientist/epidemiologist and I live in Multnomah County. Thank you for your continued work on the critical issue of the climate emergency.

It is necessary for Oregon to take strong climate action to avert the many and costly adverse effects on health and the environment that are already occurring with alarming frequency in Oregon.

We need improvements to the transportation and utilities portion of the bill so all energy utilities and oil and gas companies pay their fair share no matter where they're located. Fossil fuel companies are the largest source of pollution in our state and we cannot let them off the hook.

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.

I urge you to provide strong leadership by devising and supporting changes to this bill and pass urgently needed bold climate action in 2020. This issue is too important for us to turn our backs while our air is polluted, our children, elderly, and our most vulnerable are ill, our forests burn, our crops wither, our fish die, and water runs out in parts of our state. We can't wait any longer. We must reduce our emissions by 8% per year to meet our climate goals and prevent the worst impacts of climate disruption. It is your responsibility to act decisively, now. You can have an honored place in history, or you can be remembered as the fools who stood by and let it happen. Your choice.

Sincerely,

Theodora Tsongas, PhD, MS

Multnomah County, Oregon, United States

This email was sent by Theodora Tsongas via Do Gooder, a website that allows people to contact you regarding issues they consider important. In accordance with web protocol FC 3834 we have set the FROM field of this email to our generic no-reply address at campaigns@good.do, however Theodora provided an email address (ttsongas@gmail.com) which we included in the REPLY-TO field.

Please reply to Theodora Tsongas at ttsongas@gmail.com.

To learn more about Do Gooder visit www.dogooder.co

To learn more about web protocol FC 3834 visit: www.rfc-base.org/rfc-3834.html