

From: [Robert Kugler](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 1530: STRONG CLIMATE ACTION TESTIMONY
Date: Thursday, January 23, 2020 8:53:00 PM

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

My name is Robert Kugler. I am a Professor of Religious Studies and Classics at Lewis & Clark College, and more importantly, a citizen concerned that we address the climate emergency with the urgency it requires. So, let me begin by thanking you for your continued work on the critical issue of the climate emergency.

I believe it is critical that Oregon take action on climate because in doing so we will join other west coast states in moving forward against the threat of climate change in a way that can inspire other states to follow. I also believe it is critical to act because state- and more local-level action is what we need to depend on in the present political context.

I especially want to urge 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 we cannot let them off the hook. I would be particularly pleased if the state would look for ways to use the oil company payments to smooth the way for electrification of transportation in the state.

I am also eager to see the bill guarantee 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 hope you will support these and other improvements to this bill that ensure that Oregon has policies that effectively meet the challenge of the climate emergency.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Kugler

West Linn, Oregon, 97068, United States

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Please reply to Robert Kugler at kugler@lclark.edu.

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