

From: [John Beitel](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Oppose Costly Cap-and-Trade in SB 1530
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 9:30:06 AM

Dear Chair Dembrow,

I have used the cost calculator and the CAT tax would cost our farm \$1255 the first year. When you work on a thin margin like we do, that is a significant amount of money. If that was the only added cost, we could possibly take it but farmers can't pass costs along like most businesses. Most of our suppliers will be passing their added costs on to us which adds to our total tax burdens. In addition, those that we sell to will not be able to pay us as much because their costs will go up as well. In the end, we get hit from three directions which makes this tax very painful. Add to this, the fact that it will go up every year until everyone is broke or we figure out how to farm with no inputs, this becomes a dangerous tax.

Farmers are among those who pay taxes to support our state. It is easy to be on the other side and just keep taxing more to get more money but that will only work for so long till we can no longer be competitive with the rest of the world and are forced out of business.

As shown by our relatively small added cost for tax on the amount of fuel we use, we are already not a major carbon polluter. We work hard to minimize the amount of fuel we burn in our production process just to keep our costs down. There is no reason to beat us over the head with another tax. In all likelihood, it won't reduce the amount of fuel we use. All it will do is make it harder for us to compete in an ever more competitive world.

Please vote no on SB 1530, the Cap and Trade law. Oregon's farmers, ranchers and foresters cannot afford this law.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Sincerely,

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