

From: [Lee Schrepel](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Oppose Costly Cap-and-Trade in SB 1530
Date: Monday, January 27, 2020 9:00:06 PM

Dear Chair Dembrow,

We cannot afford the expensive cap and trade proposal (SB 1530) being driven by Oregon Democrats!

Our operation, involving around 500 acres of orchards and vineyards, with a frozen fruit processing facility, supports the families of around 25 employees. We cannot bear the burden of this proposal. We cannot pass it off on our employees. We are at the wrong end of the food chain, as price-takers, to be able to pass it along to our customers, most of which are out-of-state.

We, and agriculture in general, are not in any position to accept any further levying of taxes and fees by our Democrat-led government which has proven time and again (specific and most recent evidence is the Corporate Activities Tax) that it is unfriendly to business and agriculture!

Our family firm, farm and household cannot continue to take on greater burdens pushed by urban liberals! The attitude of our leaders that takes and grabs like this is irresponsible and harmful to our business, our community and our family! We are being driven out of business, consuming our equity just to survive another season. We cannot afford to be a "hobby farm"!

Oregon farmers already operate on very thin margins. Cap-and-trade will make us less competitive, and new CAT tax is already doing that!

For farm and ranch families, additional fuel costs or higher fertilizer prices can't simply be passed to the customer. Any extra costs from SB 1530 must be absorbed by the farm. This will squeeze farmers, like us, at a time when trade pressures are threatening the viability of our operations.

The proposed phase-in of fuels is not a meaningful exemption for rural Oregon. In fact, everyone in Oregon is likely to see their fuel prices increase! Do not pass something that fuel distributors say won't work!

Propane customers like our operation receive no rate relief in SB 1530, and this will harm rural residents, school districts, and farmers!

We urge you to oppose SB 1530. Oregon's farm and ranch families cannot afford this policy.

Thank you for listening to our concerns and voting "no" in 2020.

Sincerely,

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