From: Stephen Funk
To: SENR Exhibits
Subject: Strengthen and pass SB1530. In favor of strong cap and invest, climate change legislation
Date: Friday, January 24, 2020 9:59:32 PM

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources:

Please consider this testimony in favor of strong climate action this year, 2020.

I have a significant stake in seeing strong climate legislation, as a father of two beautiful young children, as someone who finds his higher power at work in nature and as a regular, working citizen of Oregon and planet Earth. If we can't get our greenhouse gas emissions under control, my children will face a harder, meaner, more dangerous future, with increasingly huge climate refugee crises, political instability and more blowhard authoritarians like Trump. Vast swaths of wilderness will be diminished or destroyed and hundreds of thousands of plants and animals will go extinct. The health and livelihoods of all people in Oregon and the world will be at risk.

Clearly the cost of not doing enough about climate change is massive and incomprehensible.

The cost of doing something about climate change? A well constructed piece of legislation would actually contribute to economic growth in the state. It would put us on track to massive reductions in emissions. And it would put Oregon in a position to serve as a role model to other medium-sized states to follow our lead.

The choice couldn't be simpler. The right choice is to pass strong climate legislation this year.

I am disappointed that SB 1530 has been significantly weakened from last year's climate bill, HB 2020. The new bill, SB1530, doles out passes and loopholes for many of the biggest polluters. This will hamstring Oregon's ability to make meaningful cuts in greenhouse gasses in the timeframe that is required. I ask you to do everything to pass the strongest cap and invest climate legislation possible.

Thank you,
Stephen Funk
2030 SW Roxbury Ave.
Portland, OR 97225