

Jan. 31, 2020

Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
900 Court St. NE  
S-425  
Salem, Ore. 97301

Dear Sen. Michael Dembrow, Sen. Alan Olsen, Sen. Arnie Roblan, Sen. Floyd Prozanski and Sen. Lynn Findley:

The Portland Clinic is a 100-year-old, independently owned, multi-specialty clinic serving 90,000 patients with 600 caregivers. As CEO of The Portland Clinic, I would like to express my support for Senate Bill 1530, the Oregon Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions across Oregon's economy. Building on years of analysis, public hearings, work groups, legislative discussion, and stakeholder feedback, Legislators and the Governor have worked through the Fall to address concerns and build a policy that recognizes the economic and social diversity of our state.

As medical providers, our doctors and caregivers understand the adverse effects of climate change. We treat many patients with increasingly complicated breathing and heart issues, damage caused by a more intense sun, new strains of allergies, and exposure to new pests and viruses that can be attributed to a changing climate. These issues affect the long-term health of patients and their families. Beyond the physical and emotional toll, the adverse effects of climate are increasing the cost of health care at a time when the Legislature is trying to control spending.

**We support the key components of Senate Bill 1530:**

- Caps greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide and creates a flexible, cost-effective compliance mechanism
- Establishes a statewide, organized program and pre-empts local cities and counties from creating patch work solutions that will hamper compliance and effectiveness.
- Provides a transition to decarbonization for drivers and natural gas users
- Protects electricity customers from unnecessary rate increases
- Helps trade-exposed manufacturers become more efficient and move to lower emission fuels.
- Dedicates funding for wildfire mitigation, natural and working lands, and local efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Creates strong, family-wage jobs and protections for workers;
- Includes strong accountability and oversight of the program; and,
- Creates new and innovative economic development opportunities across Oregon, including in our tribal, rural and coastal communities.

The time to pass this legislation is long overdue. Please pass this in the 2020 legislative session.

Respectfully,

Dick Clark, CEO  
The Portland Clinic