

**From:** [Teresa W](#)  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** PLEASE LET US VOTE ON THIS LEGISLATION!!  
**Date:** Thursday, January 30, 2020 5:13:00 PM

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PLEASE OPPOSE SB 1530

Please do not push this through the legislative short session.

Oregonians deserve to vote on something that will effect ALL of us!

SB 1530 - Cap and Trade Bill is BAD for Oregon!!

Just to start- will increase more over time:

\$700 million new tax.  
.72-cent increase on gas  
13% increase on utilities

Oregon's natural resource industries are committed to and rely on stewardship and sustainability; we are part of the solution. Oregon is already a leader in building one of the cleanest economies in the country. Oregon's forests sequester approximately 11 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalents, and annually withdraw 23 million to 63 million additional tons from the atmosphere, according to the Global Warming Commission's figures. This is equivalent to all the annual emissions from the transportation, utility and industrial sectors. Support our farms and forest businesses and you wont need to levy taxes against the very businesses who capture and sequester carbon.

Cap and Trade schemes are attractive to governments because they generates revenue through bureaucratically set goals, taxes and penalties with little accountability by the lawmakers who proposed, and voted in the laws.

Elected officials come and go, but their rules, regulations, laws, fees, and taxes stay.

If SB 1530 is passed, Oregon will make money regardless of Green House Gas emissions compliance. In essence, companies would be free to pollute as long as they pay the state's ransom.

SB 1530 will not decrease global greenhouse gas emissions, but it will reduce the viability of Oregon's homegrown businesses, and Oregon's natural resource industries and levy downstream financial impacts, specifically on rural Oregonians.

SB 1530 makes Oregon trucking, logging, transportation, lumber, farming, and commercial fishing, less competitive. With 80% of commodities leaving the state, it is critical that Oregon maintain a competitive edge in the global marketplace. These businesses have a limited ability to recoup added production costs. Cap-and-trade will reduce our competitiveness by levying a new layer of costs onto Oregon businesses that our counterparts in other states and parts of the world don't have.

SB 1530 requires lengthy and costly paperwork to be filed which would cost more time and expense to businesses. When the cost to maintain and manage our farms and forests go up, some businesses must close or be forced to sell. This is not good for Oregon.

SB 1530 taxes important valued businesses to Oregon, such as food processing facilities and sawmills, that are critical to farmers and forest landowners. If any of these associated manufacturing businesses are lost or move out of Oregon, farmers and ranchers will have to transport their products farther. Log truck companies will haul longer routes to mills, and mills will be paying more in hauling costs associated with longer hauls and higher gas prices. Not to mention the additional release of carbon due to transportation. To compound this impact, whether

transportation is by truck, rail, barge or ship, the fuel will cost more due to proposed legislation.

SB 1530 turns the decision-making over to the DEQ, a bureaucracy with few checks on the system. Oregon's DEQ does not have a role in regulating industries in Oregon and is ill-equipped to take up protocols. I do not support provisions that give DEQ rulemaking authority over proposed offset protocols and incentive programs for the agricultural, lumber, timber, fishing, transportation, industry sectors.

SB 1530 gives Environmental Justice Task Force the responsibility for reviewing and recommending investments of revenues derived from this Cap and Trade Bill. This body is neither elected nor organized to provide expertise with regard to sequestration practices on Oregon's farms and forests.

Under SB 1530 the spending of taxes collected are exempt from public record. We want transparency! Under SB 1530 the spending of taxes collected are exempt from public record. We want transparency! Under section 31 of SB 1530 revenue relating to this bill is exempt from public record as identified under OR 192.311 to 192.478 and are considered confidential business information. This is wrong on many levels. I oppose this greatly.

A .72-cent gas tax increase will put Oregon's Transportation industries on the chopping block. This increase will also hurt rural Oregonians since they must travel further distances to get their kids to school, buy groceries, etc. This costs increases over time.

A 13% utility rate increase will equate to hundreds if not thousands per household each year and that's just to start. These rates increase over time.

Many natural gas customers will see rate increases the first year of the program. These added costs will increase each year without an off-ramp for struggling businesses.

Propane customers receive no rate relief in the cap-and-trade bill and will face a minimum \$0.16/ gallon increase in 2022. The bill will significantly increase costs for families located outside of metropolitan areas. Propane is the primary fuel to heat homes and schools in rural communities.

There are no renewable technological solutions that can get Oregon's economy to a carbon neutral, carbon free, or fossil free state. Solar and wind sources are not reliable enough nor produce enough to sustain our population, especially in rural Oregon communities.

Add these everyday price increases to the \$BILLIONS in new taxes that we did not get to vote on, under the Supermajority's reign, and were looking at over \$3,000/yr in additional taxes per household. Rural Oregon will be hit hard. This bill does not have balance nor enough support for our rural communities to prosper.

I urge you to oppose the cap-and-trade bill SB 1530. Oregon's Natural Resource businesses, rural communities and families can't afford this policy, and more work needs to be done to address the concerns raised by farmers, ranchers, and loggers.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Sincerely,  
Teresa Wilkins