

Chair Dembrow, Members of the Committee  
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**RE: Support for SB 1530**

Dear Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee:

My name is Tim Miller and I'm writing to you today as the former CEO of Enhabit and Clean Energy Works, as an independent consultant working on climate change, and mostly as a concerned Oregonian. I support SB1530 and Oregon's need to act now with strong, smart climate legislation.

Some have asked, repeatedly, even in this building, "Why should Oregon act on climate change when we're only a small part of the problem." You may even hear this question again later this week. It pretends to be an insightful question - until you think about it.

Brief reflection shows the ethical bankruptcy that underlies this question. Of course none of us would teach our children that it's OK to litter in one of our beautiful Oregon campgrounds just because other kids are doing it too. That is the essence of this question. No. We are responsible for our own pollution.

But even more importantly, the question hides an utter lack of vision. SB1530 and action on climate is about OPPORTUNITY! It is about both protecting and creating thousands of jobs for working Oregonians.

When I helped lead and then ran Enhabit and Clean Energy Works for 8 years, with support of this legislature and federal investments, we helped over 6,000 families improve their homes for energy efficiency. This is just one example of how climate-smart policies can create thousands of local jobs - throughout our state - that can't be outsourced, that also mobilize private capital, ease families' monthly budgets, and that help families live healthier and more stable in their homes. Energy saving efforts like these and others that SB1530 will inspire will also keep energy dollars circulating right here in our state rather than bleeding them away on fossil fuel costs.

Looking beyond these immediate new jobs, SB1530 also creates smart encouragement for Oregon companies to invest and innovate, saving money and building competitive advantages relative to others in their industries - getting ready for the low-carbon future and exporting to climate-concerned customers everywhere. This is part of why hundreds of forward-looking Oregon companies - from trucking to brewing to manufacturing - are strongly in support of SB1530.

To recap, of course we are responsible for our own pollution. But just as importantly, SB1530 is about opportunity and jobs. It is the smart policy we need now to create jobs and build on Oregon's advantages in the global economy.

Thank you again for your leadership on this critical issue.



Tim Miller