

From: [Alexis Cain](#)
To: [SENRC Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB1530
Date: Wednesday, February 5, 2020 1:33:42 PM

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Olsen, and Committee Members Findley, Prozanski, Roblan,

My name is Alexis Cain, and I am a concerned Oregonian regarding the financial impact this bill proposes to my life. I urge you to take strong considerations on the actual impact of this bill on everyday Oregonians, small business owners, farmers, foresters, fisheries, and rural communities, and I urge you to vote no.

Oregon Agriculture is very unique. We produce over 220 crops, and 80% of those crops leave the state, with around half of those crops being exported out of the United States (<https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/shared/Documents/Publications/Administration/ORAgFactsFigures.pdf> and <https://oregonfresh.net/education/ag-facts-figures/oregon-facts-figures/>). These products are exported as a result of our proximity to the Pacific Ocean and exceptional quality. We've worked hard to develop relationships with other countries to provide high quality agriculture exports. Oregon is the number 1 producer for many products, but that does not mean we are the only producer. Should costs dramatically increase for our goods, there will be nothing holding our customers, whether domestic or international, from finding these goods elsewhere.

Oregon's carbon footprint is already small in comparison to the global scale. While the agriculture industry is listed as an emitter, it should also be known that they aid in the carbon storing process. Plants breathe in CO2 and exhale Oxygen (<https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/images/51289/a-global-garden-plants-storing-carbon>). The CO2 that plants "breathe" is changed to sugars to create leaves/stems/roots/woody trunks. All crops (plants) help store carbon; however, the perennial crops store even more carbon throughout their lifetime. Some of these perennial crops include grass seed, tree crops (such as hazelnuts, cherries, pears, and timber), Christmas trees, blueberries, cherries, and many more.

I sincerely urge you to take agriculture and forestry into consideration when making legislation that will severely impact their industries -- especially when they are already sequestering carbon. Our industries are reliant upon competing nationally and competing globally. Oregon agriculture generated a value 1.865 billion in 2017. They are not a small industry, and their impact should not be belittled.

Thank you for your time,

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