

From: [Russ](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 1530
Date: Thursday, February 6, 2020 11:50:22 AM

Senators and Representatives,

I wish to register my strong opposition to Oregon Senate Bill 1530. It is poorly written, would not be transparent, it picks and chooses who would be subject to the new regulations and who wouldn't, and it will have a negative financial impact on the already diminishing middle class.

Section 32 subsection 2 would make SB 1530 exempt from disclosure under Oregon's public reporting laws. If this bill is honest and just, why is it exempt from Oregon's very important laws that pertain directly to transparency? To the layperson this appears very sneaky, for lack of a better term, and begs the question, '*what do you have to hide?*' Additionally, why is the super-majority party so dead-set against a vote of the public? Personally I found Senator Burdick's recent statement regarding such a public vote to be short sighted and insulting. The governor and certain legislators throw around the term "democracy," but trying to pass such radical legislation not once, *but twice* without a vote of the people is nowhere near a democracy. Such actions by a super-majority party disturbingly approach oligarchy.

Section 6 specifically exempts aircraft, watercraft, and railroad locomotives. This means that "the average Joe/Jane" who has to drive to work five or more days a week and occasionally take their families out for an afternoon, along with truck drivers who deliver most goods to market will be on the hook to pay for the increased cost of fuel directly associated with this bill. Meanwhile big corporations like United Airlines, Union Pacific, and Hanjin would be exempt from these increased costs. I thought that the party that introduced this bill is for the working families of this state. But how can they look any middle class Oregon worker in the eye, say that they support someone, and then turn around and gouge them while giving big corporations a break?

Dovetailing on the last paragraph, it is simple basic economics that all of the increased costs associated with HB 1530, particularly fuel and utility costs, will have a very negative impact on working Oregonians and the economy in general. For example, it will cost significantly more for trucks to get food to the grocery store. The grocery store will have to pay more to the trucking company or private truck driver for their food deliveries. The store is then forced to pass on the price increase on to its customers. Families paying more for groceries, transportation and utilities will have less money to spend otherwise, thus the state's economy will slow if not stall altogether. As someone once said, "It all rolls downhill." In this case it is the middle class Oregonian at the bottom of the hill (the rich could afford it, and the poor would get assistance.)

Oregon is already a national leader when it comes to environmental stewardship. Thanks to pioneers in this arena like Governors Tom McCall and Bob Straub, Oregon has some of the strictest laws and regulations in the country designed to protect our

environment. HB 1530 would do little to bring about even the slightest decrease in greenhouse gas emissions. All it *would* do is drive businesses and some longtime residents out of the state, and transform Oregon's middle class into the working poor. I respectfully beg you to either kill HB 1530 or refer it to a vote of the people.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Russell Bohanon
Gresham