

From: [Denver Pugh](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Oppose Costly Cap-and-Trade in SB 1530
Date: Thursday, February 6, 2020 1:50:05 PM

Dear Chair Dembrow,

My name is Denver Pugh and I'm a sixth generation farmer in the Shedd area of Linn County. I oppose SB 1530 and any bill that tries to put a Cap-and-Trade policy in place and I encourage you to do the same.

This will just be another hit to the people of rural Oregon, the heart and soul of this, once, great state.

I can not get behind a bill that only creates a giant tax burden without lining out any strategies for solving a glorified carbon problem this state technically does not have. Countless research has shown that Oregon is not the problem and with only minimal impacts on it's release of carbon into our atmosphere. It's the bigger industrialized countries that need to be held accountable and Oregon SHOULD be looked at as a place for solution with the already heightened environmental practices currently in place.

It continues to blow my mind that people from the urban areas, along with most of our legislature, think that farmers, ranchers, and foresters are out to ruin our environment. That all we are out to do is mine our natural resources and destroy the environment, just to line our pockets. IN REALITY, we are the ones who have kept our environment prosperous to date with environmental cautious practices stemmed from industry supported research, technology, and teachings. Without a healthy environment we wouldn't have any sustainability to boast multiple generations of farmers, ranchers, and foresters. We aren't idiots, we know where our money comes from that keeps food on our tables and a roof over our heads, why on earth would we want to destroy that? It's exhausting to always be the first to be singled out as needing to have more regulations and another tax to make things more difficult to boot.

I've tried to take part in a calculator that's suppose to calculate my cost of a Cap-and-Trade tax but the number I've come up with doesn't do it justice what it will really mean if SB1530, or one like it, passes. According to the calculator it would cost my farm, at the very most conservative number, \$7,200 in the initial year. This does not even account for the home my family is in the middle of building where our only option for gas heat is propane because natural gas lines don't stretch out into most of the rural parts of the state. It also doesn't account for the industrial hemp dryer I put into place this past year where I'm also needing to use thousands of gallons of propane a season because, once again, natural gas lines are not available in my area.

If Oregon's legislature wants to make Oregon a "greener" state, then instead of placing any sort of carb tax on it's people and hurting our natural resource industries, then why not promote them instead. Actually pass laws that would HELP Oregon's farmers, ranchers, and foresters. The more forests that are being properly maintained, the more fields and pastures that stay in production, the more carbon sequestration takes place. The benefits from Oregon's natural resource industries, by far, outweigh all of the, so called, "negative" impacts urban Oregon thinks we place on our environment.

For these reasons, I'm urging you to PLEASE listen to the people that actually have generations invested in our environment and vote no on SB 1530 and ANY tax brought forth that would create a Cap-and-Trade policy.

Sincerely,

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