

From: [Debby Garman](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Cc: [Rep McLain](#); [Sen Riley](#)
Subject: Testimony in support of SB 1530
Date: Saturday, February 8, 2020 6:53:43 AM

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Olsen, members of the Committee: For the record, my name is Debby Garman, I am a longtime Oregonian retired from a business career. I am a longtime gardener and sometime beekeeper so I see how the Oregon seasonal cycle and landscape have been changing.

Thank you for making this opportunity today, for being here on a Saturday to listen, and for all of your thoughtful work over time on this most critical issue of our time, climate change.

I am here today because I have no moral choice but to take action to try to mitigate a horrific future for my children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. And I feel deep guilt about the likely extinction of so many magnificent other life forms on this beautiful planet. A billion innocent creatures burned in weeks in Australia. Human actions caused that to happen.

As a concerned citizen, I trust experts like The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the UN group assessing science related to climate change, with experts from around the world whose charge is to tell us what we need to know. Right now they give us about a decade to make radical change to prevent or at least moderate climate mayhem and probable extinction for all of the creatures on Earth. Given how slowly the wheels of government grind, Vice-Chair Olsen's question on Tuesday was spot on – if this issue is so important, why haven't we taken action before now? Vice Chair Olsen, I am pretty sure you know why. The fossil fuel industry generates about \$250 billion annually, they are massively subsidized by government, and they can readily afford to grease wheels and spin opinion, just like the cigarette industry did for decades. Do we now know that cigarettes cause lung cancer?

Humans out-competed other species on the planet because of our ability to create tools. It is my understanding that effective strong Carbon Cap and Invest policy is one of the best tools available to bring down atmospheric carbon. Let's build it! We are now in the final window to act, with no time to delay.

I may be naïve, but I believe in the power of elected office to lead, educate and take care of constituents. You all have extra power to shape the course of history. Oregon may be small geographically, but our citizens ARE participating in poisoning the planet, and we can and must step up to the role of BIG leadership. Let's get this done NOW, let's us Oregonians be bold leaders with good heart and conscience!