Dear Chair Dembrow,

My name is Marie Gadotti, I farm and live in Columbia County which would be included in the -27 amendment. To calculate the increase cost to my operation I would not only have to include the 22 cents per gallon for the fuels I use but all of the cost increases from my suppliers of parts, fertilizers, fuels and oils etc for their 22 cent per gallon tax on fuel they use.

It takes energy to produce the food our farm produces. We use gas and diesel for planting, harvesting and delivering our crops to the terminals in Portland, Seed Cleaning plants in Hillsboro to the dairies in Tillamook. We also use electricity to irrigate those same crops. We do not dictate what we get for our crops we get what we are given. We cannot pass on our costs to our customers which means our farm would have to absorb the higher costs from SB 1530 which we simply cannot do.

This latest amendment penalizes farmers and ranchers who live and work on the west side of Oregon by taxing fuel in the first years of the program. This tax puts a competitive disadvantage among farmers across county lines. It is bad policy and will lead to economic hardship.

Something that is not being talked about is the increase to the taxpayers of local and state taxes which would include the local Fire District, the PUD, the Schools (especially busing), the County (road dept costs alone will be huge) and then we have the State of Oregon. Think of what this will do to the ODOT budget! Yes, we will pay that too.

Please also consider what this tax will do to our families, neighbors and communities. Can they absorb higher costs for home heating, fuel for their vehicles to get them to work, school, doctors and stores to buy groceries. Will they get a pay increase from their employers (keep in mind all of their costs will go up as well) I don't think so. In fact they may get a smaller check as this tax progresses year to year.

Finally, this tax will not reduce Carbon! The farmers, ranchers and foresters do by raising crops and trees that use Carbon to grow.

I urge you to oppose SB 1530 and the -27 amendment. Oregon's farm and ranch families can't afford this policy.

Thank you for listening to my concerns and voting no on SB1530 this session.

Sincerely,

Marie Gadotti 33717 Johnsons Landing Rd Scappoose, OR 97056 mariegadotti@centurytel.net