

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Senator Dembrow
Senator Olsen
Senator Findlay
Senator Golden
Senator Robles

Testimony in opposition to SB 1530

Chair Dembrow
Committee Members

My Great Great Grand father came to Oregon in 1852 founded our ranch and built a legacy that I am proud to say has lasted in tact and in the same family for 167 years. We were included in the first 20 farms and ranches identified in Oregon to receive the Sesquicentennial award in the Senate chambers in 2003.

I personally travel 300 miles a week to distribute our grass fed beef and lamb to markets and restaurants from Eugene to Portland. The - 27 amendments to SB 1530 which include western Oregon counties where our production occurs would severely increase our distribution costs and reduce our already very thin margins.

SB 1530 and its -27 amendment creates an unfair balance and further divides eastern and western Oregon. Our operation is no different than hundreds of similar livestock timber operations on the east side, why should we be penalized because in 1852 western Oregon was the desired destination of pioneers seeking a new and better life.

The sale of cattle and calves is in the top two commodities by sales volume in Oregon. 80% of all calves born in Oregon are shipped out of state to be fed and processed, from the west side the added expense created by 1530 would make these shipments prohibitive, and ultimately the hardship will be lethal for many operations on the west side of Oregon.

Please vote No on SB 1530 and especially on the - 27 amendment which divides Oregon!!

Respectfully submitted,

William Hoyt
5th Generation Rancher
Past President Oregon Cattleman's Association
President Oregon Grass Roots Alliance