

To : Chairs and Members of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee

Re: SB 1530

From: Inga Fisher Williams  
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Portland, OR 97212

Thank you for keeping the public record open so that testimony that could not be heard last Saturday can still be submitted. And, thank you for your continuing efforts to craft and pass a climate bill.

I am writing to support passage of SB 1530 even though it is not as strong as I would have hoped. When the impacts of the climate crisis are measurably more severe and happening sooner than had previously been projected, it seems to me that it is time to make its goals STRONGER not to weaken them.

This bill has provisions that grant exemptions without time limits nor mandates for industries' transition to carbon free energy and to implement GHG emission cuts necessary to meet Oregon's climate goals. Especially concerning Natural Gas, utilities and big users must be included in the caps and pay for pollution. Not only do the proposed exceptions have no end point and provide no 'glide slope' toward a carbon free future, they are unlikely to lead to industry support for this legislation. Therefore, it is a giveaway to powerful corporate interests without merit. This fails to induce them to alter their business models in time to avoid creating stranded assets. I find that disappointing in the extreme.

Much was made by opponents' testimony urging you to 'protect our way of life'. While their fear was palpable and one cannot help being affected hearing it, it seems to me that their opposition ignores the real hazards of the climate crisis which will affect their children's future way of life. It ignores as well protecting the way of life for Dungeness crab fishermen and oyster farmers who will suffer from ocean acidity's increasing impact on survival rates of these species. It leaves out the pinot noir growers whose grapes do not tolerate rising summer temperatures; already they are moving vineyards to higher elevations. Very likely directly affecting the logging related opposition is the diminished growth of Douglas fir who will not thrive in warmer temperatures. Oregon's wheat farmers also will suffer from unrestrained GHG emissions as their yields will be reduced with increased temperatures. And, at this point, no one is certain how the climate crisis will affect hydrological cycles and stream flows if there is no snow in the Siskiyou, Cascade or Blue Mountains and no glacier left on Mt Hood.

For all these reason I stand in solidarity with our children and their grandchildren in urging strong climate action to protect ALL of our way of life which supports us with clean air, clean water and a livable planet.

Please pass a strong bill which links incentives to outcomes in line with achieving Oregon's climate goals

Sincerely,  
Inga Fisher Williams