

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

I am writing to you in support of SB 1530 that 'Establishes Oregon Greenhouse Gas Initiative'. I urge you to move SB 1530 on to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means after initial amendments are filed. It is finally time for Oregon to pass legislation that will provide some quantifiable means to lower its greenhouse gas emissions after failing to meet the goals set in 2007 with HB3543, that established the Oregon Global Warming Commission.

As a resident of rural Southern Oregon in Ashland, I am concerned about the future impacts of climate change on our natural environment, biological species and local economy. The effects of climate change are all around us with reduced snowpack, higher mean temperatures and increased risk of wildfires. Within two generations the Rogue Valley will have a climate that resembles Redding, CA if greenhouse gas emissions are left unchecked. With renewable energy costs of wind and solar now on par with natural gas, it is now cheaper to save our environment than to destroy it! It is time for Oregon to step up and take meaningful action as the cost of inaction on greenhouse gas emissions will be much higher than the cost of action.

Ray Mallette

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