



February 5, 2022

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery
900 Court Street NE
Room 453, Salem, OR 97301

Submitted to: <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2022R1/Testimony/SNRWR>

RE: Senate Bill 1534 Increasing Carbon Sequestration on Oregon's Natural and Working Lands

Chair Gordon and committee members:

The Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District (CSWCD) is a local government organization that serves citizens located in Clackamas County, Oregon. The mission of CSWCD is to support conservation of natural resources through a variety of efforts ranging from education to implementing on-the-ground projects. We provide technical services and support funding to landowners to improve land conditions.

The District wants to lend its support to SB 1534, the bill sets up a framework for state policy to increase carbon sequestration in natural and working lands and waters. The bill is embedded in the approach of voluntary stewardship of our natural and working lands which gives Soil and Water Conservation Districts the platform to collaborate directly with farmers, ranchers, foresters, and entire communities to contribute to climate change mitigation. Our strengths reside in community education and engagement which allows us to provide technical assistance to landowners in a non-regulatory fashion that results in implementation of successful conservation practices. CSWCD is committed to improving the quality of life to the residents of Clackamas County and believe that one of the pillars of success to mitigate climate change in Oregon resides in our natural and working lands.

SB 1534 will help land managers adopt climate-smart land management practices that sequester carbon and needs every opportunity for implementation. We are poised to be part of that process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Lapp". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and the last name "Lapp" clearly distinguishable.

Christopher Lapp
District Manager