

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildlife
Recovery
On SB 1532**

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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Oregon Environmental Council supports SB 1532 as amended.

Supporting Oregon's agricultural sector is an essential part of building a strong economy and resilient communities. Small farms across Oregon will benefit from education and technical assistance for integrating practices that preserve soil health; protect pollinators, wildlife and human communities; prevent soil erosion; and sequester carbon – regardless of whether they are seeking/already have Organic certification or are simply seeking to employ good practices to improve their operations. Adding five positions to the Center for Small Farms and Community Food Systems will help ensure that information, education and technical assistance is in reach of those who need it.

OEC urges this committee to support SB 1532 -2.