

Submitter: Chong Kee Tan

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB530

Dear Chair Golden and Members of the Committee,

My name is Dr Chong Kee Tan and I am the owner of Labishire Homestead Commons, a small farm in the area where I grow a variety of crops such as vegetables, corn, wheat, and rye. I am here today to offer my support for SB 530, the bill aimed at maximizing carbon sequestration and improving the resilience of Oregon's forests, agricultural lands, wetlands, and natural resource economies.

As a farmer, I understand the importance of sustainable and environmentally-friendly farming practices. That is why I have been implementing no-till methods in my farm and make my own compost to amend the soil. These practices not only improve the health of my soil and crops but also help with carbon sequestration. However, I am always looking for ways to further improve my methods and learn new techniques to help mitigate the effects of climate change.

This is where SB 530 comes in. This bill provides the resources and incentives that farmers like me need to implement natural climate solutions on our lands. By investing in these solutions, not only are we able to sequester and store carbon, but we are also making our lands and waters more resilient to the negative impacts of climate change such as droughts, wildfires, and extreme temperatures.

Furthermore, SB 530 will help leverage the federal funding available through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which includes roughly \$30 billion in incentives for climate-smart agriculture, conservation, and sustainable forestry. This is an unprecedented opportunity for farmers and landowners to lead on climate solutions and be rewarded for their stewardship.

In conclusion, I strongly urge you to vote YES on SB 530. This bill not only helps the environment, but it also benefits the farmers, ranchers, forest owners, and entire communities in the state. It provides the resources and incentives we need to improve our farming practices and make our lands more resilient in the face of ever-worsening climate impacts. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr Chong Kee Tan
Labishire Homestead Commons