

Dear Senate Committee on Natural Resources,

Chair Golden, Sen Girod, Sen Prozanski, Sen Smith and Sen Taylor:

Care of our earth, our planet, is fundamental for our human species—care of our soils, waters, animals and plant life—for us to meet the challenges we face. Care for our farmers and ranchers and for all who live in rural Oregon is essential for the health of our state. As a gardener, I'm interested in how we are promoting dryland farming to deal with drought conditions. As a Quaker, I want our legislation to be mindful of justice and equity for all our citizens—how do our policies affect the least of us? As a beaver enthusiast, I've learned how possible it is to regenerate watersheds, creating wildfire barriers.

As a former resident of Port Orford and Gold Beach, I appreciate our forests and our coastal lands. SB 530 deserves bipartisan support for the ways it will help rural Oregon and help unite Oregonians to strengthen our state.

Moreover, this bill will make it possible for Oregonians to take advantage of funding from the Federal government, particularly through the recent Inflation Reduction Act.

Please support the passage of SB 530.

Thank you,

Gail M Sanford