

February 14, 2023

RE: Support for SB 530 Natural Climate Solutions

Dear Senate Natural Resources Committee Members,

I am writing in support of SB 530, the proposed Natural Climate Solutions bill. As a landowner of acreage that contains forest, pasture, wetlands, streams, and riparian areas in rural Yamhill County I urge the committee to approve the bill as proposed. This bill will recognize the on-the-ground climate solutions that our natural areas can and do provide to sequester carbon and provide climate resiliency.

Providing funding to existing agencies to bolster their grant programs is important to landowners and enables the State to leverage federal dollars for programs. Both State and Federal actions are needed to address the climate crisis we face. Establishing a baseline inventory is a critical first step for assessing our current natural resources and for determining our future progress.

Bolstering OWEB, ODFW, ODF, and ODA with additional funding is a strategic investment as these agencies have existing relationships with landowners, local Soil and Water Conservation Districts, local non-profits, municipalities, and federal partners.

I urge you to support SB 530 and recognize the potential of our natural resources to help us meet the goals set by the Oregon Global Warming Commission.

Sincerely,
Patricia Farrell