

Submitter: Curtis Martin
On Behalf Of: Oregon High Desert Family Ranchers
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources
Measure: SB530

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and members of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, I'm Curtis W. Martin lifelong Eastern Oregon High Desert Rancher and thank you for this opportunity to give Testimony. Being transparent and honest as I listed on the registration to testify as supporting SB 530, when in reality I needed the option being skeptically optimistic about the Bill. For me the intent of the Bill, along with the accepted, Title, "Natural Climate Solutions Bill" gives a proactive, positive approach and context to SB 530. Additional phrases, such as, "Working Lands" and "SB 530 supports the viability of Oregon Ranches" specifying "Dedicated funding for Voluntary Natural Climate Solutions" and that it will "direct State agencies to provide incentive based participation", plus other favorable, attractive language as promoted by the Oregon Conservation Network, gives me to believe that I can engage in this effort, and still remain a viable, prosperous multigenerational Family Ranching operation.

But through further scrutiny of the details, for I as a lifelong Oregon Beef Producer to move from suspiciously optimistic, to supporting SB 530, several clarifications and corrections need to occur. To name a few, better balance of actual on-the-ground Producers, Stewards of the Land must be voting participants on the multiple advisory entities, specifically within the Oregon Global Warming Commission. These varied working groups and advisory panels must have actual owner/operators of Rangeland Ranches who are real working, producing Landowners whose primary income is from Production of Agricultural Commodities, NOT the absentee investor who is only using their ownership as an investment, or a hedge against future inflation. Family operations are the Real and True Stewards of the Open Spaces, because it is our Families that we are investing in!

Confidence would be gained by clearly defining phrases such as "using activity-based metrics to evaluate sequestration outcomes", what is that, what does it look like? I MUST know as an independent Beef Producer, what is the measurement standard? And can I as a Rancher/Steward in the High Desert have the ability to even come close to achieving the benchmark that is proposed? Another phrase that exhibits ambiguity "these metrics SHALL be used to assess the effects of net carbon sequestration, AND storage strategies" again what are the "metrics", what are the "Strategies?" Far too many unknowns for me to have a comfort factor of this process being fair and balanced.

The aspirational goals of SB 530, plus the worthwhile mission and purpose is most definitely a Project that I want to support and engage with! Through further clarification of phraseology, more clearly understood definitions, I believe we can coordinate and collaborate toward broad based Grassroots support, but only when we are allowed full participation in the formation and implementation of a Credible,

validated Science based approach in achieving Carbon Sequestration. Realizing the "Best Available Science" of today is dynamic and will change with further research, especially within the complexities of the Sage/Steppe environment. The Science will be modified as further studies reveal the intricacies of Holistic methodology in Land and Environmental management.

I commit to you Senators, and to the Public, that I want to enthusiastically work on the improvement of Oregon, as I am the very Proud Grandfather of thirteen young, upcoming Oregonians. It IS my Heartfelt, Sincere desire to have it be a better Oregon than when I first became an Oregon Grassroots Rancher!!

Again thank you for the opportunity to represent my Heritage, my Culture and my Family.

Curtis W. Martin