

Submitter: rand schenck

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB530

Chair Golden and members of the Natural Resources Committee, my name is Rand Schenck. I am the Forestry Lead for the Metro Climate Action Team; we are all volunteers and have over 400 climate activists. Our work is solely Oregon focused to do what we can to address the climate crisis we all face.

I urge you to pass SB 530. We know that Oregon cannot achieve its Greenhouse Gas reduction goals without drawing down CO<sub>2</sub>. We have the most powerful tool for doing that growing all around us – our forests. Of course, we also need to incentivize changes that will result in drawdown on our farms, ranches and wetlands. We especially need though to focus on our forests which on a per acre basis sequester and store more carbon than any other forests in the world. By far the biggest bang for our buck is to practice climate smart forestry, which we define as optimizing carbon sequestration and storage and resilience while minimizing greenhouse gas emissions. Practices include growing trees longer, protecting mature and old growth trees, and maintaining a diversity of species, ages, and structures.

We are very pleased to know that this bill will incentivize landowners to do the right thing and develop a comprehensive inventory of our natural and working lands. Importantly this bill will position us to obtain our fair share of federal dollars.

I do believe we can go even further by:

1. Setting goals recommended by our Global Warming Commission – 5 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e per year by 2030 and 9.5 per year by 2050.
2. Requiring the use of FSC certified wood in all new construction for publicly owned buildings.
3. Directing ODF to include climate impacts as a critical part of Greatest Permanent Value.

Thank you providing this opportunity to submit my comments in support of SB 530.