

Darlene Chirman
Resident Southeast Portland

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Joint Committee of Ways and Means
Oregon Legislature

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I am writing as an individual Oregonian in support of some of the bills before you for potential fiscal impact, that will assist Oregon to meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction goals. On the website for submitting testimony in follow-up to the April 8 meeting in Portland, I am somewhat confused as it states this is in regards to SB5506, re emergency funding when the legislature is not in session. I am NOT addressing that issue in these comments.

I support **SB522**, which will change the name of the Global Warming Commission to the Oregon Climate Action Commission, add members and require regular reporting on the progress of the state in meeting the new greenhouse gas (GHG) emission goals. I support the request of the Oregon Department of Energy (DOE) to fund positions that will allow this support of the OR Climate Action Commission in tracking the GHG emissions and progress in achieving the Oregon GHG emission reduction goals.

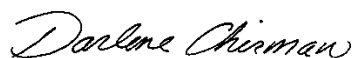
SB530 will establish a Natural and Working Lands Fund, setting up a structure for receipt of federal funds for an incentive-based program to improve carbon sequestration and storage in Oregon natural and working lands. It also directs the Oregon Department of Energy to establish baselines and metrics to assess the change over time in response to management designed to improve carbon sequestration and storage. The DOE requests funding for positions to set up the program and inventory lands that could participate in the program.

The Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program would be established by **HB3016-A**, which I support. Setting up the program, and assisting Oregon communities to establish green infrastructure programs including urban forest programs, will facilitate federal grant awards. These efforts will improve carbon storage while improving livable conditions for residents, in the face of increasing summer temperatures due to climate change. The Department of Forestry is requesting funding for staff for technical assistance associated with this program. Any vehicles funded should be low-emission vehicles.

The Depart of Forestry is requesting a large increase in funding for staff, likely beyond what the legislature is able to fund. However, the funds that are allocated to the DOF should be directed to programs that will address climate change. While the department's budget request does mention climate change, there is no mention of staff needed to implement the Climate Change and Carbon Plan approved by the Board of Forestry November 3rd, 2021.

In summary, I urge you to support the three bills delineated above that will address climate change and assist Oregon in reaching its climate goals by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating climate impacts through carbon sequestration and carbon storage in natural and working lands.

Sincerely,



Darlene Chirman