

First, take a pause, if only for 10 seconds. Notice your breath. How it feels coming in your nose and out your mouth. Offer a kind gesture to yourself, maybe a hand on your heart, to create space for gratitude for the work you are doing. Thank you for your time, energy, and commitment.

My name is Tyler Gilmore (he/him). I am a SW Portland resident and Volunteer Co-Team Lead with 350PDX's Forest Defense team. **I am submitting written testimony in support of SB 522, SB 530, and HB 3016.**

Climate change is expensive and things are only getting worse. The Oregon Global Warming Commission [reports](#) that in 2021, Oregon's total greenhouse gas emissions totalled 61.4 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent. When you multiply this by the current [social cost of carbon](#) (\$51 per ton) as set by the Federal Government, Oregon accumulated over \$3 billion (\$3,131,400,000) in economic damages as a result of climate worsening activities like burning fossil fuels and deforestation.

In light of these truly incredible costs, it becomes evident that proactive climate action offers a great return on investment for Oregon. For 0.1% of the cost of these damages - less than \$3 million (\$2,818,229) in General Fund - Oregon can take meaningful action. **Climate action is a smart financial move for Oregon.**

SB 522, SB 530, and HB 3016 in total, would cost less than \$3 million in the 2023-25 biennium general fund. Additionally, some of these may position Oregon to acquire Federal funds (i.e., the IRA) which would further increase Oregon's return on investment.

SB 522 - The *Oregon Global Warming Commission Bill* would modernize the Oregon Global Warming Commission and update Oregon's emission targets and reporting on progress toward targets.

Fiscal impact: "The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) anticipates a fiscal impact totaling \$775,835 General Fund in the 2023-25 biennium"

SB 530 - The *Natural Climate Solutions Bill* would work with the land to sequester carbon using longer timber rotations, improved agricultural practices (no-till/low-till), and protection of drinking watersheds. It would also incentivize Oregon landowners to use natural climate solutions on their land.

Fiscal: "ODOE anticipates costs totaling \$1,526,146 General Fund in the 2023-25 biennium"

HB 3016 - The *Green Infrastructure Bill* would establish a Community Green Infrastructure Grant Program, fund, and task force. It would support urban forestry efforts and our Ash trees in the face of the emerald ash borer crisis.

Fiscal: "ODF anticipates the fiscal impact of the measure is \$516,248 General Fund...in the 2023-25 biennium"; "The estimated cost for the 2023-25 biennium is \$195,428 Other Funds"

Climate action simply must be a budget priority. Humans and other species are dying, and it's an issue of racial and socioeconomic justice as it affects minoritized and low-income people disproportionately. Further, these costs I've cited don't even capture the emotional damage caused by climate events.

The antidote to despair is action. The antidote to crisis is action. Oregon can take meaningful action with minimal financial impact. Thank you, again, for your time and attention to my testimony.