

Submitter: Laurie Dougherty
On Behalf Of: 350 Salem OR
Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment
Measure: SB1559

Chair Sollman, Vice Chair, Findley and members of the Committee, my name is Laurie Dougherty. I live in Salem and am a Co-Coordinator of 350 Salem OR, the local affiliate of international climate action organization 350.org.

I urge you to support SB 1559 for a long overdue modernization of Oregon's greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. In the 17 years since these state goals were defined, we have seen the impacts of climate change happening with increasing frequency and severity.

Climate science has become more specific and more urgent, calling for the rise in global temperature not to exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial level. The world is fast approaching this limit. We all must do our part to work for a safe and stable climate.

SB 1559 will bring Oregon into alignment with the scientifically determined, internationally agreed upon, 1.5 C goal.

As SB 1559 also notes, Oregon's farms, forests and wetlands absorb and sequester carbon. By combining these natural resources with new targets for emission reductions Oregon can become net negative in emissions by 2050.

Thank you.