

Submitter: Rob Kugler

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Lieber and Representative Sanchez, and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Rob Kugler, and I live in West Linn. With the federal government eliminating essential environmental protection, it is critical that state leaders actively protect our communities and our environment.

Out of Oregon's entire budget, less than 3% goes to the 14 state agencies working to protect our water, air and forests. Our Natural Resources agencies cannot afford any further cuts.

Coastal forests are being harmed by extreme weather and wildfires. We need to protect these critical carbon sinks from the harm climate change is causing them.

Our water sources are under threat from environmental degradation. We need to protect our water sources and ensure safe water for our communities, fish, and wildlife.

Climate pollution is causing more damage to Oregon than I can recount here. We need to reduce climate pollution to protect the health and safety of every Oregonian.

For these and other environmental needs we must preserve—indeed, increase—spending on natural resources agencies.

Please, help protect Oregon now and fully fund state-level environmental protections.

Sincerely,

Rob Kugler, West Linn, OR