

**Subject: House Business and Labor Hearing on SB 1532 A Minimum Wage**

To: Members of the House Business and Labor Committee

From: Lon Otterby

Date: February 14, 2016

RE: Living Wage for Oregonians

Chair Hovley and Members of the Committee: My name is Lon Otterby. I live on a small farm in the Mohawk River Valley northeast of Springfield, Oregon. I am also a longtime volunteer with the Sierra Club. I appreciate the opportunity to present testimony to you regarding HB 1532 A and a minimum living wage for Oregonians. The Sierra Club supports raising the state's minimum wage to a livable level. We need thousands of working families to help us end climate disruption and build a clean energy economy that works for all. A living wage for families and environmental protection go hand in hand.

The Sierra Club is the co-founder along with the United Steelworkers of the Apollo Blue Green Alliance (BGA), which has grown to include 15 unions and environmental organizations representing some 16 million people throughout the United States. We pursue our goals with union partners and sister environmental groups. The Sierra Club recognizes that without a livable wage the workers of Oregon will not have the resources to support a livable planet.

At the Walmart shareholders meeting in June 2015, Sierra Club Executive Director Mike Brune called on the world's largest retailer to reduce global shipping emissions, convert to 100% clean energy by 2020, and support workers' demands for \$15 hourly livable wage. Like Mr. Brune in June I am here in solidarity with community partners and labor representing the over 22,000 members and supporters of the Sierra Club in Oregon asking you to support raising the minimum wage in our state.

Lon Otterby

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