

**From:** Sarah Spansail  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** Joint Public Hearing of SB557  
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To the Committees-

As a born and raised Southern Oregonian I am here to make a plea for your support of SB 557. This bill is not just important to me economically, but also to the future of all humanity. Since the United States has continuously refused to be a leader in greenhouse gas reductions and renewable energy investments it is even more important that we at state and local levels take immediate action.

Growing up in the Rogue Valley I have both witnessed and suffered the effects of climate change in my lifetime. In August of 2013, I was in my 3rd trimester of pregnancy and felt completely trapped by the terrible smoke in our valley. I was all too aware that air pollution exposure during one's third trimester is one of the main links to autism that have been confirmed thus far by research studies. That summer was by far the worst in my memory with 2015, the 3rd trimester of my second pregnancy, a close second. Each pregnancy I felt I was putting my baby and myself at risk breathing the air and avoided any reason to leave my home during this time - and this lasted for at least a month each summer! It is appalling to me that the health of our *planet* is still, and increasingly so, a politicized issue! I've been taught all through my public school education about the consequences of greenhouse gases and our perilous future, but somehow this is still in debate nationally!

In addition to the improved air quality and potential money saved from fewer wildfires, our community would benefit HUGELY from the influx of new jobs with this legislation. I was extremely fortunate to be working in the Green job sector in Portland during the 2008 crash. I saw my company and others like it - particularly the renewable energy and energy efficiency contractors - continue to grow while so many other industries suffered. My rural community and our state is in desperate need of continued job growth - for GOOD, long-lasting jobs - and investing in renewable energy industries and climate action is just good business sense. Please consider these points during this legislative period.

Thank you for your time,  
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