

J Farms LLC
PO Box 327
Amity, OR 97101

February 6, 2020

To: senr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov
CC: Sen.BrianBoquist@oregonlegislature.gov Rep.MikeNearman@oregonlegislature.gov;
From: Jenni Burkhead,
RE: **Senate Bill 1530**

Dear Sen. Boquist,

I am Jenni Burkhead, and I own J Farms LLC based in Yamhill county. I am writing to urge you to oppose Senate Bill 1530 as it's currently written. The bill is worse now than it was in the 2019 session in many ways, and I have serious concerns about the impacts on my business.

- Oregon's nursery industry is a \$1 billion industry, growing plants and starts that can help our state sequester carbon, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and repopulate forests. The industry employs 9,150 people statewide, with a \$332 million annual payroll in 2018.
- The Legislature has already added costs to my business through the minimum wage hike, paid sick leave, paid family leave, increased business and gas taxes, and others. We can't afford another huge price increase.
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- I am a small business with slim margins for profit and a new regulation that requires more paperwork on top of the Statewide Transit Tax, paid sick leave, and minimum wage hikes will put me out of business because I cannot afford to hire additional employees to manage all the regulations. Payroll is time consuming enough without additional taxes. Please do not discourage small business in Oregon. The nursery and farming community has been proactive in climate control already to produce an environmentally favorable product..

Please consider voting NO on SB 1530, to preserve Oregon's largest agricultural sector, the nurseries.

Sincerely,
Jenni Burkhead
J Farms LLC