

**From:** [KittenKat 1988](#)  
**To:** [SENR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** SB 1530  
**Date:** Friday, February 7, 2020 1:34:07 PM

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Dear Senators.

I am submitting my testimony against SB 1530. On February 6th 2020 thousands of Oregonians came to our State Capital to rally against this job killing bill. I know you heard us, but did you truly hear us? I have my doubts that you did hear our voices. I say this because the Chairman of this committee Senator Dembrow said during the hearing that was held on February 6th said, once it is passed into law, we could put forth a initiative and put it on the ballot. Now let's look at this from a fiscal matter, it can cost thousands dollars just to put forth a ballot measure, and thousands of hours. It can take hundreds man of hours for state employees for said measure, which cost tax payers. Therefore, why shouldn't you our Representatives put to a vote of the people? You have the power to put on ballot this November, before you pass it into law. Why shouldn't we the people have a vote on this bill? You trust is to elect you, why not this bill? I would love to have these questions answered.

Also in the February 6th 2020 hearing I heard a few people talk about forest fires. Why do we have devastating forest fires? I heard it blamed on climate change, which is not the main cause. Have any of you taken a walk deep into our forest? Have you seen all of the under brush and smaller trees? Have you seen that our forest are in desperate need of thinning? How do we fix that fact? The answer is to send our forest warriors, the Loggers in to thin our forest and under brush. If our forest land is maintained the fire risk will go down. Just like you maintain your car and home, we need to maintain our forest. A healthy forest will also keep carbon dioxide levels down. The answer to keep our carbon down is healthy trees. Healthy forests convert carbon in to clean air. Also in the February 6th hearing, I heard testimony saying how devastating wild fires in the past have been, and admitted carbon into the air in Southern Oregon, but where did the Biscuit and Chetco Fires start? On Federal not State owned lands. The Federal Government owns many more millions acres of forest land than our State Government, so nearly all of the carbon released in these fires was from Federal controlled land. How are you going to fix that issue? Senate Bill 1530 does nothing in this area. Forest management is key to this issue.

Now let's move onto one of the fees, also known as a tax, in this bill. Gas prices could go up to 79 cents per gallon according to some estimates. I am betting that some who wrote this legislation thought it would stop people from driving as much. Much like a sin tax on cigarettes and tobacco. And hoping more people would use public transportation. In rural Oregon that can be near impossible, because it's not a viable option. Many who live in rural Oregon have to travel a hundred or more miles to see a medical specialist, because they are few and far between. Those of you who live in the city don't have this problem, but we do. Gas prices are already high in rural Oregon and harm families, and this would add to it. Again in the first hearing on this bill it was said to look at California, so let's do that. As of February 7th 2020 the average price in California is \$4.03 a gallon and \$3.43 on Oregon. Now this is just the average, and in many areas it is much higher. According to KQED in San Francisco on June 27, 2019 article 41.7 cents per gallon is because of environmental restrictions, and it went up to 47.3 cents on July 1, 2019. With this in mind the average gallon in Oregon would be \$3.90. In rural areas it would be even higher. All goods and services in the state will cost more because of this. Harming many of Oregon's families. Meaning economically harming

families even more. The cost of living in Oregon is climbing and this would make the issue worse.

This bill 1530 will cost jobs for workers, yes I know there is money in this bill for retraining for workers in green jobs, most of which aren't available yet. Yes, you can retroan fir a job, but for many Oregonians it is a way of life. For example, Mr. Chairman, ir would be like you restraining to become a Logger or Farmer, or a Logger or Farmer retraining to become a English and Film Professor at Portland State University. We in rural Oregon love ti be close to the land, just like you love to live in the city. We love being close to the land that we make our living off the land either directly or indirectly. We don't want to live the urban life. This bill will kill many small towns, schools, jobs, and industries, and in killing them it will kill a way of life.

In closing, I know how hard it can be being a member of a governing body, and trying hard to do your best for all. I am a former City Councillor for the small town of Myrtle Point, Oregon, in Coos County. I also grew up in that small town. I have seen first hand the harm of poor environmental protection can cause in the Spotted Owl in the 1990's. The tax base of that town, and county are gone. In Myrtle Point there was one four gad stations, and now there is just one. I have seen to many businesses go under, and 1,000's of jobs lost all because of environmental laws or policies. We never had a vote on said laws or policies, so I implore you to change that! Let the people of Oregon vote on SB 1530!! Let us have a say in our survival. Let us vote, because it is the right thing to do. I urge you to truly hear us, and not just our horns!!

Thank you,  
Jamie Myers, Dallas, Oregon  
Formally of Myrtle Point, Oregon

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

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