

From: [Jennifer Hamaker](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Oppose Cap and Trade
Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2020 1:38:43 PM

My name is Jen Hamaker, I'm a 6th generation Oregonian. Generations on my Dad's side have relied on Oregon's fishing industry. On my mothers side, generations have worked and relied on the timber and lumber industries. I have a vested interest in Oregon's natural resource industries.

Oregon's natural resource industries are committed to and rely on stewardship and sustainability; we are part of the solution. Oregon is already a leader in building one of the cleanest economies in the country. Oregon's forests sequester approximately 11 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalents, and annually withdraw 23 million to 63 million additional tons from the atmosphere, according to the Global Warming Commission's figures. This is equivalent to all the annual emissions from the transportation, utility and industrial sectors. Support our farms and forest businesses and you wont need to levy taxes against the very businesses who capture and sequester carbon.

Cap and Trade schemes are attractive to governments because they generates revenue through bureaucratically set goals, taxes and penalties with little accountability by the lawmakers who proposed, and voted in the laws.

Elected officials come and go, but their rules, regulations, laws, fees, and taxes stay.

If SB1530 is passed, Oregon will make money regardless of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions compliance. In essence, companies would be free to pollute as long as they pay the state's ransom. This does not decrease GHG's.

SB1530 will not decrease global greenhouse gas emissions, but it will reduce the viability of Oregon's homegrown businesses, and Oregon's natural resource industries and levy downstream financial impacts, specifically on rural Oregonians.

SB1530 makes Oregon trucking, logging, transportation, lumber, farming, and commercial fishing, less competitive. With 80% of commodities leaving the state, it is critical that Oregon maintain a competitive edge in the global marketplace. These businesses have a limited ability to recoup added production costs. Cap-and-trade will reduce our competitiveness by levying a new layer of costs onto Oregon businesses that our counterparts in other states and parts of the world don't have.

This bill requires lengthy and costly paperwork to be filed which would cost Oregon businesses more time and expense. When the cost to maintain and manage our farms and forests go up, some businesses must close or be forced to sell. This is not good for Oregon.

SB1530 taxes important valued businesses to Oregon, such as food processing facilities and sawmills, that are critical to farmers and forest landowners. If any of these associated manufacturing businesses are lost or move out of Oregon, farmers and ranchers will have to transport their products farther. Not to mention the additional release of carbon due to further transportation. To compound this impact, whether transportation is by truck, rail, barge or ship, the fuel will cost more due to proposed legislation.

SB1530 turns the decision-making over to the DEQ, a bureaucracy with few checks on the system. Oregon's DEQ does not have a role in regulating industries in Oregon and is ill-equipped to take up protocols. I do not support provisions that give DEQ rulemaking authority over proposed offset protocols and incentive programs for the agricultural, lumber, timber, fishing, transportation, industry sectors.

SB 1530 gives Environmental Justice Task Force the responsibility for reviewing and recommending investments of revenues derived from this Cap and Trade Bill. This body is neither elected nor organized to provide expertise with regard to sequestration practices on Oregon's farms and forests.

Under section 31 of SB 1530 revenue relating to this bill is exempt from public record as identified under OR 192.311 to 192.478 and are considered confidential business information. We want transparency! This is wrong on many levels. I oppose this greatly.

Many natural gas customers will see rate increases the first year of the program. These added costs will increase each year without an off-ramp for struggling businesses.

Propane customers receive no rate relief in the cap-and-trade bill and will face a minimum \$0.16/ gallon increase in 2022. The bill will significantly increase costs for families located outside of metropolitan areas. Propane is the primary fuel to heat homes and schools in rural communities.

All of these increases relate directly with the carbon credit market. SB1530 hands over the authority to set what our credits will cost to non-elected officials, appointed by the Governor who is pushing the Cap and Trade bill and is desperate to make a global impact setting president for others to follow. Thing is, Oregon only contributes .14% of the world's carbon emissions. Even if Oregon became 100% green, it would make very little difference. We are already green and have reduced carbon emissions to levels before 1990 per capita. The increased prices of all types of gas will increase dramatically from the drastically understated figures the bill estimates. Carbon credits are selling for between \$40-\$90 on the open market, the legislation claims the price increases for gas are for credits being sold in the \$9-\$20 range. This is very misleading.

Add these everyday price increases to the \$BILLIONS in new taxes that we did not get to vote on, under the Supermajority's reign, and were looking at over \$3,000/yr in additional taxes per household. Every single person in Oregon will be hit hard. This bill does not have balance nor enough support for our rural communities to prosper.

There are no renewable technological solutions that can get Oregon's economy to a carbon neutral, carbon free, or fossil free state. Solar and wind sources are not reliable enough nor produce enough to sustain our population, especially in rural Oregon communities.

A free-market approach, where men and women can exercise our entrepreneurial spirit and sequester innovative breakthroughs, is the best hope, along with carbon sequestration through good forest management. Good stewardship comes from private resources combined with clear and well-structured property rights. Oregon's Forest Practices Act already details the strictest rules which protect our riparian land, wildlife, and critical habitat while sustainably managing our timberland.

I urge you to oppose the cap-and-trade bill (LC 19). Oregon's Natural Resource businesses, rural communities and a lot of Oregon's families can't afford this policy, and more work needs to be done to address the concerns raised by farmers, ranchers, and loggers.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Sincerely,
Jen Hamaker

--

NOTICE: It is okay to print this email. Paper is a plentiful, biodegradable, renewable, recyclable, sustainable product made from trees that supports our economy by providing jobs and income for millions of Americans. Thanks to improved forest management, we have more trees in America today than we had 100 years ago.

Sent from my iPhone