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February 6, 2020

Sent Via Email

The Honorable Michael Dembrow, Chair
& Honorable Members of the
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
900 Court St. NE, S-407
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Opposition to SB 1530

Dear Senator Dembrow,

On behalf of the Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce, our nearly 400 members representing 17,000 Douglas County employees, I wish to express our concerns about the negative impacts of SB 1530 on rural Oregon. If passed, SB 1530 will have significant adverse impacts not just on our local businesses, but families in Douglas County.

Much debate has gone on about cap and trade, and specifically about this proposed legislation. This bill will be devastating to rural businesses—large and small—and all Oregonians. This bill will increase the cost of living and working in Oregon. Every resident will bear the cost of fuel increases and increased natural gas rates, while having a negligible positive affect on greenhouse gas emissions.

The Roseburg Area Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 1530 for a number of reasons, but specifically the following:

- SB 1530 hurts small businesses and working Oregonians. Cap and Trade brings with it increased costs of everyday items like fuel, electricity, food, and household goods. The average family would pay an estimated \$700-\$1,000 more per year in higher costs for these items, which would include an immediate 22-cent increase in gas prices.
- SB 1530 hurts our economy with lost jobs and backroom deal making. Politically connected corporations would have an unfair advantage to escape the tax, while less politically connected businesses would face higher taxes and costs. Cap and Trade would cost Oregon thousands of living wage jobs as businesses move to other states with higher carbon emissions.
- SB 1530 hurts Oregonians with wasteful spending. Cap and Trade would allow unelected state bureaucrats to raise taxes and costs on businesses and consumers, without a vote of the legislature, at a rate of \$700 million per year. There is no accountable plan for spending the additional money. This is a California-sized policy that would burden Oregonians with additional taxes and increased costs that impact everyday life.



To advocate for and be the voice of the business community in the greater Roseburg area.

To strengthen, enhance and protect our members through political advocacy, economical development, community promotion and member programs and services.

I plead to your good conscience and respectfully request you support local businesses and the citizens in our state and oppose SB 1530. Oregonians, particularly, those of us in rural Oregon, cannot afford to bear the burden of this legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

ROSEBURG AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Debra L. Fromdahl, IOM
President & CEO

cc: The Honorable Dallas Heard
The Honorable Floyd Prozanski
The Honorable David Brock-Smith
The Honorable Gary Leif
The Honorable Cedric Hayden

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