HB3250 (Carbon Tax and Dividend) *Hearing before House Committee on Energy and Environment* Public Testimony in Opposition

Honorable Chair Pederson, Vice-Chair Johnson, Vice-Chair Reardon, and members of the Committee on Energy and Environment (including Representative Boone serving Tillamook County):

I oppose the imposition of a carbon tax and such legislation at this time. Oregon is very much an export driven economy. This proposed carbon tax would raise the price of goods and services exported relative to those provided by competing regions/countries. The dividend by contrast would end up going in part to buy imported goods. (I know there are economists of prominence who suggest otherwise, but these same economists have made egregious errors in the past such as under-estimating the severity of the financial crisis of 2008 and 2009. In other words, change should be incremental and allowed time for experimentation before broad adoption.)

Moreover, please consider Oregon has yet to apply the newly passed Clean Fuels standard, and so the ramifications particularly on the state economy are not yet known and as such further anti-carbon legislation may accentuate possible risks to the Oregon economy and particularly the lagging rural economies; where the transport of goods and industrial processes are heavily dependent on carbon fuels.

In essence, this bill is not good for the Oregon economy and actually works against buying Oregon goods, instead boosting the importing of goods and displacing Oregon made products and services.

Moreover, we need time to digest the recent Clean Fuels Standard legislation before enacting further anticarbon legislation.

*Sincerely,* Bob Clark

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