
From: Patrino Beth
Sent: Sunday, April 12, 2015 4:46 PM
To: Mickelson Anastasia
Subject: FW: Testimony in support of HB 3250

From: Ted Gibbs [<mailto:fred.gibbs@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, April 12, 2015 2:49 PM
To: Patrino Beth
Subject: Testimony in support of HB 3250

Dear Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee,

Man-made global warming is a fact not a hoax. That 97% of scientists agree is extraordinary. Scientists don't conspire. They like nothing better than to test and refute others' research whenever possible, that's what they are trained to do. I say that from the perspective of a several decade career in academic research. It's possible that their predictions may be inaccurate but it is no comfort that thus far they have underestimated the degree of warming and it's attendant effects. If you are not a scientist with your own independent contradictory observations to go by, it is as irrational to believe the earth is flat as it is to deny the validity of this overwhelming scientific consensus.

The worst effects of what atmospheric changes have already occurred will not be recognized for decades and the tipping point (when global warming will be irreversible and may accelerate in a positive feed-back loop due to melting permafrost and methane hydrates) is uncertain and possibly much sooner than many have guessed. Therefore, it is of the utmost urgency that we act decisively now to reduce fossil fuel consumption. Waiting until southern Floridians are using gondolas and even the merchants of doubt are forced to concede their error will certainly be too late to preserve life on Earth as we know it.

HB-3250 is a conservative approach to undoing the current unfair price advantage of fossil fuels thereby allowing market forces to drive further development of and utilization of renewable energy sources. It's practicality has been established in Alaska and the dividend approach avoids the stigma of big government interference. There would be no need for politically difficult decisions as to how to invest tax proceeds, the inevitable pass-through cost increases of fossil fuels would be alleviated and it would help correct the income gap. It's an important step in the right direction. Please support it.

Frederic Gibbs, M.D.
5555 Beaton Lane
Ashland, OR 97520
541/552-9948