



Testimony by The Bus Project – April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
In Support of Fair Climate Policy (HB 3250)

My name is Nathan Howard and as Interim Executive Director of the Bus Project, I am proud to submit testimony in support of HB 3250. This bill, the Cap and Dividend, is a nationally groundbreaking model for both climate and economic stability. I applaud the Oregon legislature for considering HB 3250 and urge lawmakers to champion this critical policy.

Since 2002, the Bus Project has been engaging new folks in democracy, building a great future and empowering great people to lead it, right here in the great state of Oregon. We focus on state-level politics, because here in Oregon we know how to solve pressing issues that stump the rest of the nation. Our organization spearheaded the movement for the historic New Motor Voter bill signed into law this year that will enfranchise hundreds of thousands of Oregonians. We stand on the shoulders of giants past who protected Oregon's land, shores, and beauty for generations they'd never meet, like mine. Now it is our turn to protect a stable climate for Oregonians to come.

Global warming is the issue of our time. It is only right that our organization—by, for, and of the young and young-at-heart—should stand with rising leaders across the state who believe Oregon can show the world how to get it right on climate action. It is past time for a comprehensive, market-based, economically progressive, bipartisan, root solution to the air pollution crisis that threatens us all—with a plan that benefits us all. We can do this by pricing carbon at scientifically meaningful levels and returning 100% of the revenue to Oregonians. We can do this with HB 3250.

In 2009, more than 12,000 young people lobbied Congress for carbon pricing. In Oregon, we now have the same ingredients to melt cynicism and reignite Millennials' engagement: 1) compelling policy from the perspectives of science, equity, and bipartisanship, 2) political opportunity with one of—if not *the* greenest legislature in the nation, and 3) a strong and truly grassroots movement. The Bus Project is proud to be part of a campaign for the carbon price-and-dividend that unlocked thousands of volunteer hours from students, recent graduates and young professionals.

We know our generation can save the world. But we need your help, because the climate crisis is too urgent. By the time we are in your august shoes it will be too late to pass the price and dividend that can win our future. Please, do all in your power to advance HB 3250 now. We will stand with you.

With thanks for your service,

Nathan Howard

Bus Project *Interim Executive Director*