

**In Support of HB 3250**

**Written Testimony**

**This is an Emergency**

It is way past time to consider the climate crisis as the emergency is truly is! An overwhelming number of the world's most knowledgeable climate scientists agree that the climate crisis is indeed a catastrophe in the making.

Surely the reality of this winter's numerous and record-cold storms and floods, the threat of high food prices due to California's record-setting drought, the fact that the previous year was the warmest on record worldwide, has convinced most people of this climate emergency. Yet an emergency such as this requires immediate action to slow it down and reverse it. People are in denial - it is too hard to accept that our world is changing rapidly and drastically.

**Recovery Will Take a Very Long Time**

Years ago concentrations of the climate-altering gases in the atmosphere passed the level believed to be relatively safe. The natural rate of removal of these gases is so slow that experts say even IF we were able to completely stop the addition of more climate active gases today, the climate would continue to warm until at least the end of this century!

**The Oncoming Boulder of the Climate Crisis**

It is like we somewhat blindly caused an enormous fiery boulder to slowly roll down a great hillside headed straight toward our world village. As it travels, the boulder is causing pebbles of destruction to roll ahead of it. Some of these pebbles are already hurting the village and should serve as "warning shots across our bow" giving us a taste of the much greater destruction on its way. If we can't divert the biggest part of the boulder to bypass our world, it is difficult for me to see human civilization surviving.

**Feedback Loops**

The intensely climate-active gas methane is now being released from some of the previously frozen tundra and undersea sources, intensifying the danger we face. In addition melting snow and ice mean less reflection of the sun's rays back into space, increasing warming in another dangerous feedback loop.

**Pass HB 3250**

We must do something, and the most effective and fair thing I can think of is passing the carbon cap and dividend law - HB 3250.