

To: House Committee on Rules
From: Jeanne Roy, Co-Director Center for Earth Leadership
Date: June 7, 2015

Subject: HB 3470, Climate Stability and Justice Act

As a lifelong Oregonian and environmental educator/advocate for 40 years, I consider limiting carbon emissions the most important issue the legislature is facing.

The Federal government is not going to protect us from the consequences of global warming in Oregon--extreme weather events, increasing forest fires, rising oceans, decreased snow packs, and rising rates of asthma. We need to do it ourselves.

British Columbia already has a carbon tax; California passed its carbon cap in 2006. Oregon needs to step up and take responsibility as part of the West Climate Initiative. In capping carbon and encouraging green energy, Oregon is likely to grow our economy. During the first two years of California's cap and trade, the state's economy thrived, and jobs grew by 3.3 percent in 2013-14, more than the rest of the nation. British Columbia has one of the fastest growing economies in Canada.

I understand that HB 3470, which would require the EQC to establish greenhouse gas emission limits, is in your committee.

I urge you to move this bill forward.

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