

Greetings,

I understand that this bill will be the subject of an informational hearing tomorrow in the Senate committee and is still pending in the House Rules committee. Please add these comments into the record in both committees.

I have lived in Southern Oregon for twenty-five years and I am concerned, no, I am frightened about the real possibility that my step-grandchildren will not be able to enjoy the diversity, landscapes and climate of the Rogue Valley as I have. Our Jackson County Commissioners just declared that we are experiencing increased wild fire risk and negative economic impacts to our agricultural, livestock and related industries due to extreme weather which is causing drought. The County further notes that an appropriate response is beyond the capacity of the County.

We know what we need to do – we need to cap the greenhouse gas pollution that is contributing to the drought and immediately start investing in renewal energy replacements. The state can do that and we need to do it now, not in 2016 or some later date. I want to see a significant climate bill pass in this session. And HB 3470 is our last shot this year.

The cap and trade presents the bold emergency action we need. It takes advantage of California's experience and allows us to join with California's much larger economy to reinforce collective action, along with the Canadian provinces who have or will join. It will stimulate our economy with clean energy jobs in our communities and there numerous organizations, industries and agencies that are ready to do the work necessary to make the transition. The only thing needed is a level economic field and to speed things up – which we must – a public investment in the new industries. Said another way, let's take back some of the public subsidies the oil and gas industry have benefitted from and prop up the renewable industries in the next couple decades. We need to make this commitment to the future and stop thinking about the next election cycle. I understand we have poverty issues and working class family issues that need to be addressed but why make any compromises. The economic benefits of this program will help our communities and families.

HB 3470 needs to go to the floor for an up or down vote. And I for one will be working to hold on to the progress and to make additional progress during the next election and legislative cycles. Thank you.

Tonia L. Moro  
Attorney at Law PC

19 S. Orange Street  
Medford Oregon 97501  
541 973 2063