

**Testimony by Gabe Armattoo, West Linn High School Lobby Club
Before the House Committee On Energy and Environment
Of West Linn High School**

February 27, 2017

Mr. Helm, members of the committee, my name is Gabe Armattoo and I represent West Linn Lobby Club, a club where us youth take initiative and get involved with our local government.

In the bill presented to you, it proposes to require the Environmental Quality Commission to adopt by rule certain statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits by no later than January 1, 2018. This bill will require emissions by 2020 to be 10% lower than 1990 levels, emissions by 2035 to be 68% lower than 1990 levels, and emissions by 2050 to be lower than 91% than 1990 levels.

18 different scientific associations agree that climate change is occurring and that greenhouse gases emitted by human activities are the primary cause. According to NASA the carbon dioxide levels have raised by 405.92 parts per million and the global temperature has raised 1.7 degrees Fahrenheit since 1880. This is all happening right in front of us, we need to put a stop to climate change. Taking small steps can go a long way.

West Linn Lobby Club seeks to have our voices heard. We want to feel represented. Although we can't vote and our opinions have no legal standing, our opinions still matter. *We* are the ones that will have to deal with the consequences (good or bad) of today's legislation; shouldn't we have a say in that process of decision-making? I am not prepared to lose the environment that has been my home for the past 16 years.

Now is the time for us as a species to preserve the beauties and wonders of our planet. I urge you to support this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you. I'd be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.