



To the Members of the Committee

As an Oregon Resident, I am writing to express and ask you to vote NO on soon to be up coming Bills in that are to be introduced in the short legislative session.

I am particularly concerned about HB4001. This bill uses a main term of Cap and Investment. Where the idea of the Oregon Legislature is going to set arbitrary limits on businesses towards carbon production and then require those businesses to pay money to the treasury if those carbon levels are exceeded as now being touted as “and investment” to save the planet in global warming costs.

This is nothing but a play on words, the simple fact is.. requiring a company to pay money to the state based on carbon production is.. It is an TAX on those businesses. As introduced, the writers have acknowledged that Energy Producers, factories, and Utilities will be the hardest hit with the pentalties. The term “Investment” is being used in the bills to avoid the required by the Oregon Constitution of 3/5 Majority for a tax increase.

The bill as stated that it’s the goal to be to bring Oregon Carbon production footprint to 1990’s levels. Now picture that.. this state has grown since the 1990’s and is still fast growing today. Even Gresham area will be affected by more people expected to come here. But limiting a arbitrary limit on “carbon production” to a 1990’s level is unrealistic. We have more people today in the state than in 1990.. So as written.. MORE TAX will be sure to come in.

The way the bill is written, the utilities and gas companies are sure to be hit by the “investment tax”. The result will be higher gas prices. That in turn will not only affect Oregon residents, but it will affect shipping prices for things such as groceries, farms, and other businesses who will then add those costs to their prices. This will affect ALL Oregon residents because those companies will have to be able to raise the money to pay for the “investment” tax.

I am dissappointed by the sponsors who try a play on words to push forth words for a tax to avoid the constitutional requirements. I am also dismayed that the Democratic Caucus in the Oregon legislature who is thinking the Oregon residents are banks for more taxes. We have signs of better conditions economically in the past two years.. but now.. we have a drive to tax those people more by the Oregon Legislature.

I again urge you to vote NO on these bills. Thank you for your time and trouble.

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