

To the members of the committee

I am writing this testimony to urge a NO vote on HB 4001/SB 1507 Cap and Trade or as the term that has been battering around, Cap and Invest bills.

The goals sound noble. But the execution of this bill comes down to being very oppressive to the residents of Oregon. It will raise costs for all gas, all electricity and natural gas and this is part of the goal to eventually put Oregon's carbon footprint to 50% of 1990's level by 2050.

What is ironic is.. Oregon's population has grown over 1.4 Million individuals from the year 1990. By definition.. this bill promises to punish all residents for the addition.

As far as gas prices go. It goes much more beyond more money at the pump. Last Session the legislature raised the state tax on a gallon of fuel by 10 cents. Now under these two proposals.. the state is promising to add even more taxes onto consumers. But the associated costs is what promises to be more difficult to swallow. Fuel for trucking of goods and groceries will cause prices in stores to rise. Oregon produce by farmers in the state.. will also be paying more for producing due to fuel costs.

So.. in the Portland area where planners are telling everyone that we must shop and use Light Rail to do it. I would ask you the legislators if you ever tried it. I have.. and going grocery shopping by Light Rail is much more difficult and more expensive than you can ever imagine. And due to Portland's plastic bag ban.. almost impossible to do in the rainy days. Doing it by BUS is even more difficult.

But what about people who live in towns such as Boardman or Irrigon Oregon? Where the vast majority are practically forced to drive to Hermiston to have shopping choices for their groceries? Not only is their costs go up to get to the stores, then the prices are even higher in those stores because of it. This bill will affect those in the areas outside of the greater Portland Salem region.

What about Power? We have already have rates rise due to previous legislation.. and now suddenly we have a progression scale guarantee of rates being risen due to the Carbon trading for credits established in the bills. Wind power is stated as saving the planet in Oregon.. but the sad fact of it is.. 5% of total Pacific Northwest Generation is what wind provides.

And wind power is variable.. from experience in working within the Bonneville Power Administration, wind power must have a constant power source to balance the up and down loads of the various wind speeds that occur all day long. Right now Hydro is the most steady part of that generation.. but indications are by supporters of this bill.. the desire is to even move from that source of energy.

This body helped raise the minim wage in the state previously. But the simple fact of it is.. THIS bill alone takes any advantages that the Democratic Majority claims and takes it away.. so in effect.. you forced higher minimum wages to essentially give the additional money by the state because the low income people will have higher costs.

I urge an NO vote for this bill on these points alone. Oregon Incomes have NOT risen to the rates that this bill guarantees to rise for goods and services. We have present

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