



February 7, 2018

Dear Chair Dembrow, Chair Helm, and members of the committee:

The Redmond Chamber of Commerce and CVB stands firmly with the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce (OSCC) in their opposition to HB 4001, Cap and Invest legislation. We do not support the adoption of California's carbon cap and trade program, which would tax carbon emissions and drive up the cost of energy. This issue is not an emergency and deserves the full input of every citizen of the great State of Oregon.

This is not good news for Oregon! If the bill becomes law, the price of gasoline will increase, and will have the greatest effect on those who can afford it least. This is particularly true in rural Oregon, where people drive longer distances for employment. This tax will have devastating effects.

HB 4001 will cost jobs. The bill will also authorize bureaucrats to increase taxes on gasoline, electricity, and natural gas, ultimately taking the impact out of the hands of elected officials and away from the people.

Oregon's economy is already one of the cleanest in the nation, accounting for only .7 percent of the nation's carbon emissions and .1 percent of global carbon emissions. Between 2000 and 2015, Oregon's carbon emissions declined by 13 percent, while the economy grew by 85 percent and the population by 18 percent. Oregon is already, and continues to be a good steward of the environment.

Again, the Redmond Chamber of Commerce and CVB joins the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce in the opposition of HB4001, Cap and Invest Legislation.

Sincerely,

Eric Sande
Executive Director