

January 17, 2020

Senate Interim Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Re: LC 19

To whom it may concern,

My name is Brenda Frketich and I'm a third generation farmer from St. Paul Oregon. I'm writing to you today in opposition of the bill that was put forth this past week regarding Cap and Trade, LC 19. I watched the entire hearing on the bill. My initial thoughts after hearing all the testimony is that someone did a great job stacking the invited testimony to be basically only positive in nature. Of all the speakers and invited testimony, only two folks were there with real work that needed to be done on the bill, and I think that there was a large sector, specifically farmers and foresters that were left out of the conversation completely.

With the bill itself, this is a sad try at making bad legislation in any way better. I still don't see how you are going to protect rural fuel users from price increases. Your answers and questions during the hearing seemed to make it very clear that you don't understand yet how fuel is even distributed in this state. I think one pointed question was in regards to why fuel would be piped to Eugene to just then get trucked back up to Portland. The answer was that this happens a lot because of fuel getting moved around due to shortages in areas of our state. Clearly you all don't have a grasp on what it actually entails to get fuel around this state, which makes me very concerned for how you're planning to track it down to each gallon of where it is actually sold and used.

My second concern is the fact that you still have not given any credit to farmers or foresters for the carbon that they are already sequestering. If you are going to monetize the act of carbon sequestration, farmers and foresters are doing that year round every single day. We should get credit where credit is due. It's not fair to say, well just the carbon that you sequester moving forward counts, that's not how this works. That will create zero incentive for our industries to participate, to innovate, and to be the environmentalists that we have been for generations. One gentleman testified that there would be tens of millions of dollars for farmers and foresters. "It will create new markets and value for the carbon sequestered on our forests and farms while supporting the continued production of forest and agricultural products that anchor our communities and state." But I have yet to see where in this 158 page bill that is spelled out in any form.

Which gets me to my next point, this bill has no business even being discussed during this session. This short session historically has been used to "fix" or modify work that has been done during the long session. It in no way shape or form has the business of passing or even working on legislation that could touch on every single industry and human in this state. I also heard time and time again from your stacked deck of invited testimony that the time to act is NOW, we are in a state of EMERGENCY. Those words are being misused, considering in the next breath they regaled you all about your work for the past three years on this legislation. How is this such a dire emergency when you've taken three years to come up with something? What is the harm in waiting one more year to send it to the voters? What is the harm in letting everyone (republicans and democrats) all come to the table and actually work

together? I think the emergency is maybe that you may not have the power at the capitol that you have now. And quite frankly, that's your problem not mine or the environment's, and it shouldn't be presented as such.

And finally while I have many frustrations over this bill and what it does and doesn't actually do (curb carbon) you all decided to add in a public records request restriction and keep in the part where you pay people for when they lose their job due to this law. So first off, we as the public will never know if this is working. My guess is that there are people out there that will make a lot of money to make it look good and we will be cheered on as the champions of saving the earth while simultaneously ruining our business community and shutting down our farms and closing our forests to good management. And when we are all sitting there with our hands out because it's your fault that we lost our jobs, you will make us prove it, and we can't, because we can't get any information about what is really going on.

This is scary, this is irresponsible, and this needs to be stopped.

Thank you for your time,

Brenda Frketich
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