

Chad Kernutt
Millersburg

Dear legislators,

My name is Chad Kernutt, I am a veteran, a tax-payer, a law-abiding citizen, and a concerned rural resident from Millersburg who's a husband and father of 3. I urge you to vote NO on LC-19. This poorly thought out and completely partisan bill will devastate Oregon's economy and jobs not to mention its residents, particularly the residents in rural communities. We are a rural single income family that makes roughly 70 grand a year (including overtime, about 54 grand base salary) before taxes, over a third of my paycheck is taxed, i commute 50 miles each day for work. We live paycheck to paycheck and our expenses are tight, i pick up as much overtime as i can to make ends meet. This bill will jack up prices at the pump and on our utilities. I don't have the luxury of being able to get things done with a Prius or some other little smart eco car or participating in public transit by way of train or bus. Oregon is so much more than Portland and Salem and the majority of you lawmakers have seemed to either forgotten that or just don't give a damn. When it comes to the attack on fuels such as natural gas and fossil fuels you all need to think about this, solar only works when its sunny out, wind turbines only spin when there is wind, and hydroelectricity (the largest producer and most reliable of the 3) at the dams which only works when there is large snow fall years (don't forget about the environmentalists assault on removing the dams and remember their from your party). None of these 3 are completely reliable and depending on only them would lead to consistent rolling black outs of electricity on the grids. And the massive increases of taxes on gas at the pump will take large amounts of the little money we have from our wallets, money we spend on our children/families. It's completely evident that the majority of you are completely content with this sacrifice and making fossil fuels and natural gas another victim of cancel culture all for the sake of satisfying a progressive liberal agenda that will severely affect and have disastrous consequences for your constituents and all Oregonians but particularly rural Oregonians. I again ask you all to not abandon common sense and hurt Oregonians for the sake of agendas and vote NO on LC-19. Also here are some bullet points I would like you all to think long and hard about:

* LC 19 punishes rural families, farms, and businesses who have no alternative but to use propane to heat their homes and run their processing facilities. Rural residents will bear the full cost of the increase in the first year of the program. This disproportionately impacts rural communities.

* Many Oregon families and businesses will immediately suffer from increased natural gas rates.

* **LC 19 clearly jeopardizes Oregon jobs.** It includes provisions to assist workers who have been displaced or lost their job due to the cap-and-trade policy.

* The proposed phase in of fuels by geography (Portland first and other cities later) is an empty exemption for rural Oregonians. Please don't pass something that fuel distributors say won't work! Under LC 19, fuel costs will increase for all Oregon families, regardless of where they live.