

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislative Assembly,

My name is Anderson Beals and I am a third year law student at Willamette University College of Law and I've lived in the State of Oregon my entire life. I am writing to ask that you support strong legislation to fight climate change and make Oregon a national leader in this most pressing problem of our time. My dad has worked in the construction and land development industry his whole career. I myself have worked in construction and logging before going to law school. I understand the fear of increased costs associated with cap and trade and other environmental protections that affect working people. However, I still believe strongly that our society and our elected officials must take swift action to preserve a better world for everyone, especially young people who will be dealing with the consequences of our actions for generations.

Climate change is changing our world and making it harder for people to live in many of the poorest regions of the world. The effects of climate change are also hitting the United States, including our home state, and will continue to get worse, most likely at an exponential rate, if we choose to do nothing. This last decade, 2010-2020 was the hottest ever on record, and 2019 was the second hottest year of all time. The scientific community has reached a consensus of over 95% agreement that human caused emissions of greenhouse gases are the main cause of increasing global temperatures in our atmosphere and in our oceans.

I urge you to be courageous and support legislation that seriously addresses climate change. Even though Oregon has a relatively small economy, we can have a huge impact on our Nation and the World if we are leaders in the fight to preserve our future. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Anderson Beals