

From: [Matt Schuster](#)
To: [SENR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Oppose Costly Cap-and-Trade Bill
Date: Sunday, January 26, 2020 12:50:05 PM

Dear Chair Dembrow,

I farm in your district and have concerns about the cap-and-trade bill.

Our operation has been battling very low commodity prices over the last three years. At the same time we have seen rising wage, fuel, and input costs. Cap-and-trade will make our operation even less competitive in the domestic and global marketplace.

Farmers have a limited ability to recoup any added costs of production. Additional fuel costs or higher fertilizer prices can't simply be passed to the customer. That means that any extra costs associated with cap-and-trade must be absorbed by family farms and ranches. Our family can't afford these added costs.

Both on- and off-road agricultural fuels are included in the bill and will result in significant price spikes for family farmers. Please don't pass something that fuel distributors say is unworkable.

As an operation that uses a significant amount of natural gas to dry our products, I am fearful of the massive rate increases the first year of the program. These added costs will make conducting business very difficult.

We also use a lot of propane to operate our forklifts. We, and other operators, will receive no rate relief in the cap-and-trade bill and will face a minimum \$0.16/ gallon increase in 2022. The bill will significantly increase costs for our business, and for families located outside of metropolitan areas.

I'm also worried about the families who use propane to heat homes and schools in rural communities. I urge you to oppose the cap-and-trade bill (LC 19). Farm families can't afford this policy. In fact, most families will not be able to afford this misguided policy.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Sincerely,

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