

HB 2020 adds financial burdens on Oregon farmers and ranchers. The rural areas in Oregon will bear much of the burden because of large loads of products coming and going for agriculture production. The distance traveled here in the eastern part of our state is far and wide as it is necessary in order to provide the food, fiber and energy our state and nation need. Please keep in mind what a human being needs (listed in order) to survive.

Food (Meat and protein, fruit, vegetables, grains)

Shelter, (Wood and products that come from our renewable resources)

Energy (Electricity, wind, solar, coal & hydropower)

Fiber for clothing (wool and leather as well as other products)

I feel the farmers and ranchers as well as the people who work with us and for us will bear most of the cost. Please remember the importance of the hard-working risk takers that make up the business of providing for the basic needs of our fellow humans. Most of us feel we are doing well if we break even. Many of us pay our own health insurance out of our own pockets provide jobs, are honest tax payers, work over time, all holidays and weekends because we believe in what we do and are good at it. I am pretty sure the government couldn't hire folks like us for less then what we pay ourselves.

Another thing I would like to add is what we do for the environment. We care for the land. We carefully graze pasture and range lands. Sometimes we graze farm ground to clean up the ground to prepare it for the next planting. Many times, we graze in places that would otherwise be a fire hazard. In some cases, it saves our farmers from having to spray or till. Saving fuel and energy. We know that if we do not take care of the land then none of us will fare well. We are the true Environmentalists.

I am asking you to carefully consider before adding another huge burden to those that provide the most basic and most important needs for life.

Sincerely,

Penny Krebs