

I am writing to ask you to oppose HB2020. We are a small family farm that produces grass seed and will be adversely affected by the proposed law. Margins in Ag are small and this law will cut into that margin significantly without any real benefit. By keeping the country green, we are doing a lot to absorb all the carbon dioxide produced by the cities already. I don't understand why we should be punished for doing our part. We already do our best to use as little carbon based fuel as possible because it only makes sense. It will take many years to go from a carbon based economic system to something else. If it makes sense, it will happen without any additional taxing by the state. It has already been proven in other parts of the world that a state sponsored economy doesn't work so Oregon shouldn't be trying to prove it again.

I think we all know that the climate is changing. Right now it is getting warmer. We can argue all day about what is causing it. The proponents of this legislation even say that this law will have no effect on the climate. The result of that means that all this law will do is create another source of income for the state to spend on their pet projects. I propose that in place of this useless piece of legislation that we look at ways that will help us all live with a warming world. There are many things that can be done to help man continue to thrive in a warmer climate. It would be far more ominous if the world was cooling. The dark ages were caused by the last mini ice age. At that time it was harder to stay warm, produce food and fiber and stay healthy. The bottom line is be careful what you wish for.

As farmers, we will have to learn to grow crops adapted to a warmer, possibly drier or wetter climate. We don't need to be taxed into doing these things. That will just make it harder.

Once again, I'm asking you to oppose HB 2020. It is a useless bill, a poorly disguised tax put on the backs of hard working Oregonians that have been taxed enough already.

Thanks for your consideration

John J Beitel
Beitel Family Farms