

February 15, 2019

Dear Co-Chair Dembrow, Co-Chair Power and members of the committee,

I am writing today to express my concerns about the impacts of HB 2020 on my local community. This bill has significant negative impacts on local businesses and families. The Bay Area Chamber of Commerce represents over 500 members who are committed growing business opportunities and providing living-wage jobs for families across the state.

As I, a local citizen that represents small business owners, I am proud of the role these members play in making Oregon a current leader in renewable energy and low carbon emissions. Unfortunately, HB 2020 will only drive up the cost of everyday needs for Oregonians and hurt our ability to grow valuable jobs across the state.

If Oregon passes a cap-and-trade law, it will increase the cost of living and working in Oregon. All residents will bear the cost of fuel increases and increased natural gas rates. The price of fuel would increase by at least 16 cents per gallon and would drive Oregon to have the third-highest gas prices in the country. Natural gas prices would also increase by double digits in the first year. This not only hurts local families but businesses as well.

As drafted, HB 2020 penalizes companies that make or grow things in Oregon. Companies in Oregon would end up paying higher energy and operating costs, which would result in fewer living-wage jobs. This is especially concerning in rural areas.

I hope you will support local businesses in this state and oppose HB 2020. Oregonians can't afford to bear the burden of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Tom Burdett

1345 Bayview Ave.

North Bend, OR

97459

To: Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

From: Tom Burdett

13545 Bayview Ave.

North Bend, OR 97459

Ref: Cap & Trade HB 2020

Date: 2/14/2019

Members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

It is my understanding that hearings will take place tomorrow and Monday (2/18) regarding HB 2020.

I also understand that NW Natural will share and pass on the financial impacts incurred should HB 2020 pass into law. I reside in a rural zone for Oregon, where gainful employment is hard to find. Also, any increase in living costs places a large burden upon citizens. For instance, a 16 cent increase per gallon of fuel will directly cut into the pocket books of Oregonians. Costs for transportation electricity, natural gas and food will skyrocket! Forcing our costs of living to escalate is not the way to represent and support your Oregon constituents!

We feel that your direction on this matter is wrong!

Penalizing Oregon businesses that grow our economy is wrong!

Raising revenue without accountability on how the monies will be spent, is ridiculous!

I urge you to support and protect our rural communities and reject HB 2020.

Sincerely,

Tom Burdett (electronic signature)

thomasburdett@gmail.com

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