

Please do not make a bad situation worse by passing HB 2020.

My brother and I operate a small farm in NE Oregon (the last 10 acres of the original homestead). Five years ago we quit raising fruit due to the new increased costs put on us from complying with the food safety laws (which have not helped much with food safety) and new spray regulations which have done nothing to reduce let alone control pests or help the environment. Neither program guaranteed increased prices for our products but did wonders for lowering profit margins to the point where we switched back to raising fresh cut flowers. Raising energy costs from Cap and Trade will cut profit margins on this product to the point where it could cause us to close the business and sell the farm.

Legislators need to realize that not every product in Oregon has a 1,000% profit margin, most business' have just enough profit to keep the doors open.

Forcing legislation like HB 2020 on Oregonians can only have a detrimental effect on our economy while providing little or no carbon reduction as promised, especially in rural Oregon.

Please use some common sense, we all want a clean environment but this bill will do nothing to achieve anything but make it tougher to make a living in Oregon. Let the economy operate in the free trade manner it was meant to work in. When products come out that make it profitable to lower our carbon footprint any business that wants to stay in business will gladly change.

Cap and Trade will severely hurt Oregon.

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