

Please accept this e-mail as my public testimony for Cap and Trade Legislation.

I am very proud to work in the forest products industry helping to provide wood products for the construction of affordable homes and buildings. I believe in the wise use of our natural resources feel it is important to replant our forests for future generations. I also believe that climate change is a natural phenomenon that has been constant over time with the existence of our planet. I do not believe that man plays a big role in effecting changes to this natural occurrence.

I am opposed to HB 2020 as I believe it is bad legislation designed to do nothing more than raise revenue for the Oregon State government with no accountability for how lawmakers would spend the money. It is being fronted as legislation to protect the environment when it is actually a tax on our energy dependent businesses and the citizens of this state. Increases to the cost of fuel, living expenses and utilities by taxing fuel and gas will increase the cost of living on every household in the state.

I hear Senators and Representatives in our government talk daily about the need to provide AFFORDABLE housing to Oregonians in need, the homeless, the disabled, and the veterans for example. I fail to see how legislation that focuses on increasing the cost of producing the materials we use to build homes helps provide affordable housing.

Oregon is already a leader in renewable energy, green jobs and low carbon emissions overall. Our legislators need to recognize this and vote no on HB 2020.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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