

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

I attended the hearing today, February 22, in Springfield and had to leave at 3:30. Please see my prepared remarks below.

My name is Carolyn Stein, I am from Eugene and have called Oregon home for the past 18 years. I am an investor in several Oregon-based businesses and I am the Executive Director of BRING Recycling, an entrepreneurial non-profit organization that has operated in Lane County for nearly 50 years.

I am an Oregon business professional and a volunteer of Environmental Entrepreneurs, a national, nonpartisan network of business leaders who advocate for smart policies that are good for both the economy and the environment.

I represent the 400 E2 members and supporters across Oregon who work in a broad range of industries and sectors, from small business owners and investment managers to biofuel producers and hazelnut farmers.

Many will argue for HB 2020 as an essential step on Oregon's path towards a better future for our children, our children's children, and the countless generations to come. While it's critical to take action on this issue, HB 2020 also represents an enormous economic opportunity for our state.

Thanks in part to smart policies like the Clean Fuels Program, Oregon is already home to more than 55,000 clean energy jobs according to a recent E2 report. And that economic growth is benefiting the entire state, as more than 11,000 of those jobs are in rural Oregon.

HB 2020 will send the right long-term market signals to drive additional clean energy investment and job growth and continue to strengthen Oregon's clean energy economy across the state. A recent report commissioned by the Governor's Carbon Policy Office further demonstrated HB 2020's economic promise, finding that a Cap-and-Invest program may create 50,000 new jobs and an increase in Oregonians' household income across all tax brackets.

And while the economic opportunities are reason enough to pass this legislation, failure to take action—and the increasing damage climate change will produce should we stick to the status quo—will exact enormous costs to Oregon's people, environment, and economy.

The economy of the future will be climate-conscious and powered by clean energy. HB 2020 will help ensure that Oregon is a leader in the shift towards a low-carbon economy and that all Oregonians benefit from the innovation, investment, and job creation this economic transition will drive.

Thank you and I urge you to pass HB 2020 as soon as possible.

Carolyn Stein
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