To my representatives,

Don't harm us because you believe in a cause, any cause, no matter what. The ends don't justify the means. And as much as you might want to save the Earth, this isn't the way. This bill does no good. And it will increase the cost of living for the people. It will increase the cost of production. It will increase the cost of goods. Our state's productivity will be negatively impacted. Our state's products will be too costly. Our market will decline. And furthermore, the bill, even if it did everything it claims as its end goals, it would only reduce the global carbon emissions by 14/10,000ths (0.14%). Farmers' fuel costs will go up, causing them to have to pass their increased expenses onto their customers. This will raise the price of food. People will starve. People will die. And again, the bill does nothing to help Oregon or the people. It would harm our state. We are a disadvantaged community in Southern Oregon. You want to help the climate and clean up the atmosphere? Let logging return to our region. Environmentalists' hearts can be in the right place, but their approach is myopic, near-sighted, with unintended consequences. The Monument, for example, is going to burn. You want to let it burn, destroying homes and polluting the region's skies and costing us all millions of dollars during the summertime again? I don't think so. Real environmental concern would involve letting people remove excess fuel in the Monument, for example, such as fallen logs. There are so many things to be cautious about with this bill. Unintended consequences despite our hearts being in the right place, do not mean that we should just push forward with a well intentioned bill that would have drastic negative effects on the people. There are other ways to fund the public employees retirement system than to try to drastically overhaul the entire economy of our state. Don't do this. It's a war on the people. HB 2020 would have massive negative consequences. Plus, if you do try to pass this, we will make sure you never get elected again. The suffering this bill would cause would drastically outweigh any potential good it could do. Find another way. You can't help one group of people while harming another. That's exactly what this bill does. Trying to save the Earth should come from our hearts, not be legislated. You can't force people to care. The ends never justify the means. Getting there is half the journey. It's about how we treat each other more than it is about remote causes that we believe in. Much human misery is caused by believing distant fairytales. Carbon dioxide is not the problem. It's a life-giving gas. And this entire boondoggle is about raising money by taking it from the people, with no responsible oversight, and it will destroy our way of life.

Jerit Fourman Ashland