

Altho I attended the hearing in Medford last Saturday, I did not get to speak my views.

It seemed that many others were concerned w/ potential rising taxes. So it would be good to look at the facts.

There are states—CA among them—which have already passed such measures as cap and trade. In those instances, fuel prices have declined (CA) and electricity prices have also declined (east coast). And economic growth has improved, even in surrounding states.

In OR, we actually have more workers in clean energy jobs than in fossil fuel-related jobs. Passing HB2020 will provide even more clean energy jobs, such as retrofitting buildings for energy savings and adding solar panels.

I understand the state of OR has commissioned an independent economic analysis that shows that a cap-trade-invest system would lower greenhouse gas levels, create 50K full-time well paying jobs and add to Oregon's GDP.

We must remember that economy and environment are inextricably linked. HB2020 will be good for Southern Oregon. Investing in clean energy will not only improve the health of Oregonians but will benefit us economically.

Thank you.
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