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Dear Co-Chair Dembrow, Co-Chair Power, and members of the Joint Carbon Reduction Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Vernier Software & Technology in support of HB 2020.

We are a member of Oregon Business for Climate, an organization that represents 100 large to medium-sized businesses from across the state in support of HB 2020. As members we share in the organization's mission of reducing our statewide emissions while strengthening Oregon's economy. We believe the Cap and Trade model that is the foundation of HB 2020 provides the lowest cost option for achieving our reduction targets while also incentivizing and fostering innovation to Oregon's economy.

We must work quickly to lower our carbon emissions in Oregon, as the longer we wait the more catastrophic the economic and environmental costs will be. To that end, we hope that provisions contained in HB 2020 are not further diluted from what is currently in the bill framework, which we believe would impact the fundamental integrity of the program. We know you will hear from others who want you to weaken this legislation. Please hold the line.

We also understand that this is complex legislation and some people feel the proposed legislation does not go far enough. We think this bill will be a good start on minimizing the impact of climate change in Oregon and it will be a model for other states to emulate.

This session, we see more momentum than ever before to pass this legislation and, while Oregon itself may not have a large carbon footprint, we have an opportunity to lead the country and regain some of Oregon's reputation a leader on environmental issues.

We urge you to pass HB 2020 now.

Sincerely,

David L Vernier
Founder and Co-President