

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

My name is Richard Felley. I am a 1980 graduate of Oregon State university with a degree in Wildlife Science. I have resided in Oregon since 1976 and in Tillamook County since 1980.

I seldom contact my state and federal representatives but I feel the overwhelming need to make contact in support of HB 2020. I keep, as a reminder, on my desk a page from a 1997 Oregonian newspaper article with the headline reading, "Believe it or not, global warming real".

I have worked as a manager of Tillamook County Soil & Water Conservation District with a primary responsibility to restore salmon habitat. I held a position as Director of the Tillamook Bay National Estuary Project where we also focused on salmon habitat and water quality improvement. I then managed a non-profit recycling center known as CART'M Recycling and in my semi-retirement am managing a small water district. My familiarity with environmental issues, managing environmental data and understanding those data sets is strong.

My weakness is my ability to understand why we keep shortchanging good long-term policy for short-term benefits...why we can't acknowledge what is right before us, the end of the world we used to know and enjoy traded for a world fraught with human-caused, insurmountable and costly challenges. 22 years ago the Oregonian ran an article stating that global warming is real yet we continue to side step the issue.

In my current job as a water district manager going into my 10<sup>th</sup> year I believe we are seeing a trend in the acidity of our drinking water increasing. Our water comes from rainfall filtered through Neahkahnie Mountain and delivered as 1 – 3 year old water at our springs. This observation combined with what I see as I walk the beaches daily is nothing less than alarming. Star fishes disappearing in one year. Barnacle die offs that can only be explained by ocean acidification. How long can our leaders defer the responsible decisions?

As a private pilot I see our temperate rainforest, referred to by some as tree farms, resembling something more like a bombing range along the coast than a rain forest. Take a flight up and down the Oregon coast, especially after a recent snowfall. Clearcuts appear to occupy 50% of the landscape! The worst offenders appear to be the private forest land holders. I am not talking about past decades, I am referring to recent observation over the last year or two. Our forest practices act is not providing enough protection. With all the concern about air quality and carbon sequestration, forest slash burning and other agricultural burning practices should be banned immediately.

I am convinced that our human tendency toward immediate gratification rather than long-term planning and policies isn't going to harm us, it is harming us. Please leave a legacy of having the courage to make the right decision and pass the strongest possible clean energy jobs bill. Oregon has been a leader in the past showing the rest of the country what can be done for the right reasons. We need to join other states who have seen the light and create a surge for the entire country to embrace on capping carbon emissions.

Thank you for your time, a very concerned citizen, Richard Felley, Tillamook County, Oregon 97131