

Hello, My name is Ray Mallette and I live in Ashland, Oregon. I attended the HB2020 hearings in Medford last Saturday on 2/23 but did not get a chance to speak before time had run out.

I want to thank the legislators for spending your time to come to Medford to hear citizen input on this important bill, HB2020. The physical and economic impacts of global warming and climate change will only accelerate if everyone in the US expects someone else in some other State or some other Country to take mitigation action. Oregon needs to pass HB2020 to show the rest of the country how to move to a reduced fossil fuel economy while creating economic opportunities. It is only through our action that we can encourage other States to also take action.

Voluntary reduction goals of green house gases do not work. Oregon has made little to no progress towards the voluntary reduction goals of carbon emissions that were set in 2007. Oregon needs the cap that HB2020 provides. There are economic impacts from climate change whether we take action or not to reduce fossil fuel use, there are no savings to be had from inaction.

We need to move through our fears and uncertainty of living in a reduced fossil fuel economy as there is no need to reduce our standard of living as we will actually have a better quality of life driven by the planned adaptation and mitigation of climate change. While HB2020 is not perfect, we will have many years to improve and change the bill. We need to get started now!

Thank You,

Ray Mallette