

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

My name is Kay Firor, and I live in the NE part of Oregon, near a tiny town called Cove. (It was originally Forest Cove, but the Post Office made us change it in the early part of the 20th century, to avoid confusion with the more important *Forest Grove*) I am writing in support of HB 2020. I am chagrined that more supporters of the bill were unable to attend the hearing in Baker City on Monday, but the weather was such I couldn't even travel the 15 miles to La Grande that day, much less the 40 miles to Baker.

HB 2020 contains ideas that will benefit Oregonians and our State. It also re-establishes Oregon's long-held position as a leader in doing what is right for our environment. Oregon's economy and climate will both benefit; studies you have already seen show 50,000 new good jobs and the elimination of 2 million metric tons per year of carbon dioxide would result from the implementation of this bill.

We have already seen the cap-and-trade idea working well in other states, and in other countries, reducing CO2 emissions, creating thousands of new well-paid jobs, and stimulating the manufacturing and service sectors. California is our most notable nearby example; according to a write-up by the well-respected Environmental Defense Fund, California's emissions from sources subject to their cap declined 8.8% in the first three years after their program began in 2013, and according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, their unemployment dropped sharply and their GDP grew by 11.44%.

I am perhaps a bit unusual, in that I have been concerned about climate change since the late 1960s. My father was a climate scientist, and led the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado. He brought home stories and graphs of data showing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere going up every year, and we talked about what he considered to be a real possibility, that our changing atmosphere would soon begin to

significantly warm the planet. I have spent my adult life working toward and promoting the idea that humanity will have to move to using renewable sources of energy. My husband and I have a small business, Blue Mountain Solar, that installs and maintains solar electric systems across several counties in NE Oregon. Although we are at retirement age and will not personally benefit economically from a new push toward renewables, we know it is the right thing to do, for Oregonians, for the planet, for our children.

Thank you for reading this. Please support HB 2020.

Very Sincerely,
Kay Firor
Cove, Oregon