

From: Ralph Ohman, city of Medford resident and Oregon taxpayer

I strongly feel the data, advice, and input solicited and provided the 2017-18 interim committee in the drafting of this bill was swayed to promote a predetermined outcome. As far as the 'best available science' is concerned, there is no empirical data on what is normal in any way, shape, or form when it comes to global warming, or it's new adopted less defining term 'climate change'. Consensus based science concludes that there is no way of determining what is 'normal' for this planet as man has not been here long enough. As for Oregon specifically, the hit our carbon greenhouse gas fingerprint has on our planet is minuscule, a fact admitted to by Gov. Brown. The thought that Oregon's HB2020 will have any affect on greenhouse gas emission reduction compared to that of India, China, or even our United States is absurd.

In your public meetings, many have testified concerning the impact this bill will have on individual citizens and families. Rather you except them or not, you know the factual numbers: immediate minimum 16 cents per gallon increase on the price fuel; 19% increase in my Avista natural gas utility rising to 48% by 2035; food, utilities, and gas increases adding \$1500 annually per family budget, etc. In interim committee testimony, legal counsel admitted in response to an inquiry from Sen. Bentz that passage of this bill will change the way Oregon's economy functions and this in turn may require "assistance to households, businesses, and workers" including the possibility of mental health training to people who have been harmed by implementation of this bill....and this is a good thing?? In addition to your legal fiduciary duty to not cause harm/hardship to one group of citizens at the expense of another, this bill is morally and legally wrong! Members of the joint committee, sum up the courage to table this bill and send it back to the 'drawing board'. We do not need to be the carbon cap and trade 'poster child' for the rest of our country....Oregon is not the place, this is not the time.