

To the Joint Commission on Carbon Reduction:

I am Stephen Bachhuber from Portland, Oregon. Please accept my testimony on behalf of the proposed cap and trade legislation.

I am 70 years old, old enough to see the effects of climate change in my yard, my garden, our forests, farms and snow pack. I worry about the earth that my grandchildren will inherit and how little time we have to act.

The Clean Energy Jobs Bill is well crafted. It mimics and links to California's cap and trade system. The economic benefits of California's approach are clear. They are expanding their economy while reducing their carbon emissions. Oregon needs this boost too.

Of course there will be pushback. Change is difficult and many are happy with the status quo. When you listen to their objections, please bear in mind the costs of doing nothing. We cannot afford a status quo with the rapidly increasing price of climate disruption. Fire, drought, crop failure, meager snow pack, and disease increase are problems now that will only increase in intensity with unrestricted climate change.

The Clean Energy Jobs Bill is not a panacea, it is really a first and absolutely necessary step to a carbon pollution free society. Much more remains to be done, but nothing happens without a start.

Sincerely,
Stephen Bachhuber, MD.
3428 se 9th Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97202
503-319-3950