

Dear Members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

My name is Bryce Baker and I am a lifelong Oregonian. I live in Forest Grove, and have spent much of my life fishing, hunting, and crabbing along the Oregon Coast and Coastal Range. As the father to a three-year-old little girl, I am excited to pass on my love of Oregon's outdoors to the next generation. And it is as a lifelong Oregonian and father that I write in support of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

Some of my earliest memories are of my dad and me exploring, foraging and hunting throughout Oregon. From sturgeon fishing on the Columbia River, to razor clamming in Seaside, and steelhead fishing on the Nehalem River, the Oregon Coast was a key location for our adventures.

Now that my dad is gone, I treasure the memories of our experiences even more. Continuing to enjoy Oregon through fishing, crabbing, and hunting — and passing on my dad's legacy by teaching my own daughter these things — helps me hold onto him.

It's because of the deep sense of place I feel for Oregon that I am so troubled by changes I've observed in recent years. Crabbing season was delayed yet again this year, and Oregon salmon and steelhead have hit record low returns. And I can't tell you the number of times I've observed a perfectly full moon on a clear night, with low tides that set the stage for perfect razor clam hunting conditions — yet a marine toxin has closed the beaches.

*The Daily Astorian* previously wrote that researchers believe these beach closures, due to biotoxins making shellfish unhealthy to eat, will become a more regular occurrence. Domoic acid is a naturally occurring toxin, but its prevalence increases when the ocean is too warm. In recent years, it has increased substantially along the Pacific Coast. Razor clamming throughout the beaches and bays below Lincoln City is still closed as of today.

These particular impacts are fueled by unseasonably warm rivers and oceans, which are caused, at least in part, by climate change. But in passing HB 2020, we can help to slow the impacts of climate change and establish Oregon as a national leader in the movement to reduce emissions and transition our state to a clean energy economy.

Aside from the local climate impacts I have witnessed, I support HB 2020 because it's a tried and true policy that's already working elsewhere. Ten states already have successful policies in place that are similar to Clean Energy Jobs. California is part of the North American Carbon Market, and the Canadian provinces of Quebec and Ontario also have an economy-wide cap and price on climate pollution. In the Northeast, nine states (soon to be 10 since Virginia plans to sign on) are all part of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, a cap and trade system for the utility sector.

Oregon stands to gain a great deal from the Clean Energy Jobs bill, and equally stands to lose a great deal if we fail to act on climate change. The health of our oceans is directly tied to the health of our communities. We're already seeing the impacts of climate change throughout our state. If we are to pass on Oregon's natural resource heritage to our children, as my dad passed it on to me, we must pass a strong Clean Energy Jobs bill. I urge you to act swiftly and pass the policy now.

Sincerely,  
Bryce Baker  
Forest Grove, Oregon