

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

My name is Kevin Kasowski and my family and I live in West Linn. We strongly support HB 2020!

We love living in Oregon -- but amid the forest fire smoke the past two summers and hearing about drinking water systems shut down in nearby communities because of toxic algae blooms related to climate change -- for the first time ever, I started thinking about moving.

Truth is that Oregon is already on the front lines of climate change's impacts.

While my heart goes out to Oregonians who feel (rightly or wrongly) that their livelihood is threatened by this bill, the simple truth is that the industries they work for are the reason why we are starting to see these devastating impacts.

I am from a blue-collar family and understand their concerns so I fully support a generous allocation of cap-and-invest revenue to help create a just transition for workers, along with economic development in rural areas to create other opportunities. If we approach it right, this isn't necessarily a case of jobs vs. environment.

In any case, even if it is, I have no doubt here about what the right thing to do is and I hope you don't either.

Let's show some leadership to the rest of the country by enacting a "compassionate" HB 2020 and be on the front lines, not just of the impacts, but of the solution!

Thank you!

Kevin Kasowski
West Linn