

The punitive expense that HB2020 will place upon the average blue-collar worker in Oregon is going to be crippling. Oregonians currently go above and beyond goals to reduce the impact on our environment. We carpool, we have litter patrols, we already reduce our energy consumption (without being forced to do so) we voluntarily reduce our use of plastics (once again without being forced to do so) and we improve the rivers and streams with voluntary activities including replanting trees.

This bill will not improve the environment, there is no schedule of events set forth in this bill that will reflect anything other than the inability of Oregon citizens to work, grow food or buy food that is grown locally.

Small businesses in Oregon have already suffered enough from the damaging smoke-filled summers we have had. An additional punitive tax for no direct purpose will do nothing but line the pockets of those who make the decisions while eliminating further small businesses. Southern Oregon is losing big time already and now you would like to punish us more by imposing a cost of living that most will not be able to live on. Southern Oregon businesses are already paying for the poor fiscal decisions made in Portland/Multnomah county.

I have looked up the history of some of your panel members that are involved in making this decision, and as a normal blue-collar family man it appears that some of these people have never had a real job and are not living in reality. Seriously, what I heard in opposition to HB 2020 made common sense, we had numerous great speakers. If I was in favor of this bill upon entering the auditorium, after listening to 4 hours of opinions of both sides, I would have changed my mind.

Where is the money going to? How are the average Joes suppose to be able to afford this increase in not only fuel to get to work, school and shopping but in the heating costs? Where are you going to find the money to fund your next not so bright idea when the unemployment rate in Southern Oregon skyrockets? With HB2020 the only ones left behind in Southern Oregon will be the ones that are too poor to move out of the state.

THERE IS NO RIGHT WAY TO DO THE WRONG THING

Thank You

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Talent Oregon