

Hello, my name is Amy Kaser and I live in The Dalles. I would like to provide written testimony concerning HB 2020.

I am a wheat and cattle farmer who will be negatively impacted by HB 2020 in its current form. I personally believe that climate change is the largest single threat to human life and to our environment, so I applaud the Oregon legislature for taking on this issue when the federal government won't address it. However, one of the concerns I have for our business is how much the cost of raising our food will go up due to the current form of this bill. While agriculture is exempt, from the carbon cap, our fuel provider is not. It is estimated that the costs will be passed on to farmers at around 16 cents per gallon. For our farming operation, this would work out to just under \$2,400 in additional costs based on our fuel consumption from last year. We are at the mercy of the markets, and cannot pass these costs on to the consumers of our products. We operate on razor-thin margins, so this is a cost we must absorb somehow.

I would encourage you to fully consider the domino effect of this bill on the farming community and try to add amendments that exclude agricultural fuels from the carbon cap so that our fuel providers don't have to pass that cost to us. As you consider this, remember that farms are large swaths of land that sequester a lot of carbon in our crops and rangeland. We don't currently have the technology available to us that would enable us to switch to equipment that does not run on fossil fuels. Ideally, there would be a world-wide effort to convert all fossil fuel technology to alternative energy, figure out a way to sequester excess carbon from the atmosphere, and get this train wreck stopped before we reach a point of no return. Until then, be thoughtful as you dive into this issue - really consider the effects on everyone, not just the 100 businesses that will be subject to the cap and trade.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Amy Kaser
The Dalles, OR