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

I am Daniel Smith, a first-year student at Willamette University. I am originally from San Diego California, where wildfires have become more and more dangerous over the last couple of years as a consequence of many factors, not the least of which is climate change.

I am writing to you today to ask that the Clean Energy Jobs Bill not only remain as strong as it is in its current state, but is also made stronger. It is imperative that Oregon provides an example for the rest of the country that legislation to address climate change is possible. The bill in its current form will do a great deal to reduce Oregon's emissions over the coming decades and to help mitigate the impacts of climate change for communities that would otherwise suffer the most. That said, more can be done to help keep the future of these communities bright. The way for this to happen with the current bill could be to add an amendment requiring a more transparent process that will tie reduction of pollution directly to the use of funds in communities most affected by pollution. Further, to help prompt a quicker reduction in emissions, amendments reducing free allowances in the first year of the program from 100% to 50% as well as making sure cement, polystyrene, and plastic industries are not eligible for free allowances would be tremendously effective.

Thank you for hearing my concerns and suggestions, I hope that under your leadership House Bill 2020 will become an even stronger force for good and the future of Oregon.

__

Daniel Smith

Willamette University Class of 2022 ASWU Senator '18-19 Treasurer of the Poetry for Life Club RHA General Assembly Member ODP Trip Leader