

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

I am a student at Willamette University and I want the strongest possible Clean Energy Jobs bill. HB2020 needs to be strengthened to ensure a climate resilient future for us all.

In the bill there must be a specific percentage of investments in impacted communities, as well as a more transparent process that will tie reduction of pollution directly to the use of funds in communities most affected by pollution. This is a priority because we know that low income communities of color feel the brunt of carbon pollution and energy cost first, we know that climate refugees need a home here in OR, and we know that rural coastal communities need infrastructure support.

Furthermore incineration of municipal solid waste should not receive an exemption in the Clean Energy Jobs bill. Solid waste incineration is a harmful pollutant and not something we should rely on to combat the climate crisis.

Voters under 25 are officially the largest eligible voting demographic, and we will use our voting power to ensure that we only elect the strongest climate champions to office. We believe this bill is a step in the right direction, but that it does not go far enough. Thank you for your time in working with young people to make this bill the strong legislation we need.

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Best Wishes,

Claire Mathews-Lingen
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"Another world is not only possible, she is on her way. On a quiet day, I can hear her breathing." - Arundhati Roy