

Dear members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

My name is Margaret Smith. I am a grandmother who helps care for my granddaughter, and it's heartbreaking to see how Oregon's climate has changed in the short time between my daughter's childhood and my granddaughter's.

When my daughter was little, her summer days were spent wholly outside. Riding bikes, exploring the woods, games in the park, weeks at Camp Namanu, or afternoons at the neighborhood pool. I fear my granddaughter will not experience these same carefree summers. Last summer, there have been many days when it is simply too hot or smoky for her to go outside.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, children are more susceptible to temperature extremes because they are less able to regulate their body temperature than adults. They are more likely to experience dehydration, heat exhaustion, heat cramps, and heat stroke. 97% of scientists agree that climate change is real, and it's not hard to see they're right. And according to the CDC, children are among those most likely to be affected by health threats from wildfire smoke because their airways are still developing and they breathe more air per pound of body weight than adults. Anyone who grew up in Oregon, or raised their children in Oregon, can see that things are different. This is not normal.

It's time we step up with bold solutions. Passing HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill, is one of the most important things you can do this legislative session. I won't be around when the worst climate impacts come to pass in Oregon, but my granddaughter will. It's for her future and the future of all our kids that I urge you to be bold and pass the strongest Clean Energy Jobs bill possible this legislative session.

Thank you,

Margaret Smith
Forest Grove, Oregon