

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

My name is Tedra Demetriou. I am an RN in Portland Oregon, mother of a daughter at U of O and a son at Franklin High School. My kids are fourth-generation Oregonians. I commute by bike and drive a hybrid. I take action to reduce my carbon footprint, but the truth is, what I do doesn't make much of a difference. The 100 largest companies in Oregon are responsible for 84% of all carbon emissions in our state. The ONLY way to reduce our carbon emissions as rapidly and massively as the science requires is by forcing them to do so with strong legislation. Im working hard to make a difference. I expect that every law maker on this state is as invested as I am in avoiding wildfires, floods, storms, extreme weather, pollinator disruption, mass extinctions, food insecurity, climate refugees, water wars, and other, unimagined horrors of climate change.

The climate situation is dire. We need to take radical action now to downgrade climate change from a certain death sentence to a survivable disaster. Nothing else really matters.

Humans created this problem, and humans CAN solve it. Our dependance on fossil fuels is not a requirement of modern civilization. We can still have cars- electric cars. We can still have comfortable homes- powered by solar energy. We need clean water and air and food, but don't need oil and coal to live happy, productive, meaningful lives.

Individuals like me can't make big enough changes without strong- really strong!- legislation to back us up and move us along the path to changing our energy infrastructure. **We need to pass a strong and rapidly declining cap that covers all Greenhouse gas emitting entities.** Do not succumb to the fear mongering that has been generated by the fossil fuel industry! Do the right thing: Clean Energy Jobs is good for our climate and good for the economy.

The entire country is looking to Oregon to lead the way to a sustainable future. We can plan for it wisely, or we will suffer the consequences. We can take action now. We can make this bill strong, invest in alternatives, and use our human ingenuity, resourcefulness, and creativity to end our dependance on fossil fuels and create an energy infrastructure that will preserve our forests, our land, our native fauna and our people.

It is our moral imperative to take action. Radical action, for the situation is critical. Keep this legislation strong, smart, and significant.

Thank you
Tedra Demetriou
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