

Hi, my name is Lindsey Flannery, and I am part of the bend Senior High School environmental club. I am a minor and as a US citizen who can not vote I often feel like my voice is not heard, even though I am the one who will be inheriting this planet, so thank you Co-chairs Dembrow and Power, and members of the Joint Committee on carbon reduction for being here today to listen to me and to all of us. I support HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs Bill.

This bill is vital for Oregon in paving the road to reducing emissions, because the oceans are rising, weather systems are getting more extreme and more forest fires are burning longer and with increasing intensity. Scientists say that in 11 years the effects of climate change will be irreversible... we are on a ticking bomb. In 11 years I will be 26 and well under the age limit for being president, under the age limit for being a senator and just coming of age for being a state representative, that is why you guys need to act now by passing this bill, and invest in renewable energy so we will have a planet to call home.

Some are afraid that this new bill will negatively affect our economy but the fact is, Smoky dry summer skies are plaguing our state and in 2017 Oregon lost millions of dollars in visitor spending, not to mention the crops farmers lost due to fires. If this continues our economy will spiral and many Oregonians especially in the vacation industry will lose their jobs. This is just another reason why we must pass this bill, because it will insure new well paying clean energy jobs while in the long run also helping to ensure a flourishing natural habitat. Plus The Cap and trade Bill has shown to be a economic and environmental benefit for the 10 other states who already have this system running.

Our summer months are being taken away by smoke. I personally have asthma so I fall into the high risk category for smoke inhalation. I also run cross country which can make the summer training months almost impossible. This is a problem for all sports forcing outdoor sports such as cross country, soccer and football to compete for indoor training space. We need change to protect ourselves and protect future generations. So Even though oregon is not a major contributor of greenhouse gasses, we have to start somewhere so let's pave the road for new jobs and cleaner air.

The climate is changing so why aren't we?