

Hello to co-chairs Dembrow and Power, members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction.

My name is Dr. Karen O'Neill and I am an emergency physician at Providence Hood River hospital. I have many reasons to support house bill 2020, but I want to primarily address the public health issues that will be impacted by this bill. Having worked in emergency departments for 30 years, I have seen the health consequences of poor air quality from pollution and forest fires especially amongst those with respiratory diseases such as asthma. The effects of this bill would encourage transitioning to clean renewable energy and in the long run curbing climate change and subsequently forest fires. Both of these effects would improve the air quality in Oregon and the respiratory health of our population.

I urge you to pass this bill.

Thank you

Karen O'Neill