

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

My name is Owen Wozniak, of Portland, and I'm writing to voice my strong support for HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

I appreciate the hard work that members of the JCR and all the many stakeholders have undertaken to create this bill. I don't understand every nuance, but on the whole I believe it will make a meaningful difference in lowering Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions and thereby contributing solutions to the greatest existential threat of our time: climate change. The law's declining cap should guarantee declining emissions and help Oregon transition to a clean and more stable economy. If done right, the program will also generate money to support urgently needed investments in making our society more climate resilient -- while also producing local jobs.

I know there are many details to hash out, but I want to be clear: we simply have to stop emitting carbon dioxide and that means being bold and doing what we know is needed. I grew up in Alaska and have witnessed, in my adult life, changes to the climate there I could never have imagined when I was young. It is heartbreaking to know that my own child may never get to experience the nature I knew. Here in Oregon the effects are also obvious enough on endless, hot summer days choked by wildfire smoke. As a cascade of recent studies makes clear, we can't wait and we can't limit our response to incremental steps safely watered down by fossil fuel interests.

Please be bold and pass a bill that actually moves us, quickly, in the direction of de-carbonization. My own child, and your children and grandchildren will judge us. We won't be able to say we didn't know. We do.

Thank you.

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