

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

I am Stephen Funk, a husband and father of two children living in the Cedar Hills neighborhood of Portland, OR. I am writing in support of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

I support HB2020 because it is incumbent on us as a state to take meaningful steps to reduce our emissions of destructive greenhouse gasses, and also because it will provide strong economic benefits across Oregon. Key to the bill is the declining cap, which would result in a reduction of 2 million metric tons of pollution every year, the equivalent of removing 425,000 cars from the roads. The bill boosts our economy by directing the collected fees toward investments across the state, especially in rural communities, tribes and communities of color, and adding an estimated 50,000 jobs.

I believe we must act boldly and quickly against global warming for the sake of my children and their children, for the sake of human civilization, and because I believe nature is a sacred trust that we must protect and preserve. Top climate scientists have determined we have 11 years to drastically reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to avoid the most cataclysmic effects of climate change. The droughts, wildfires, killer storms, famines, habitat loss, species die-offs, refugee crises and political instability of today are child's play compared to what is in store for us unless we act now!

Thank you,

Stephen Funk