

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

My name is Dr. Barbara Ruben and I am a native Oregonian. I have always considered it an honor to live in Oregon, a state so full of natural beauty. However, it makes me sad to stand by and watch the climate change with so little human attempt to stop it. We no longer have the luxury of doing nothing about climate change. We must finally start to take action before it is too late.

It's very important to me that you pass HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill. An independent economic study presented to the legislature in 2019 shows HB 2020 will benefit our economy. It will add to household income across all tax brackets, with the most going to low-income households because it will create thousands of good-paying jobs and the transition to cleaner energy will lower costs for people and businesses. One of the best parts of the bill is that it guarantees 2.2 million metric tons of pollution will be reduced every two years, this will help the environment and my personal health because I have asthma. Last summer, I wasn't able to go outside during the extreme smoke caused by wildfires that are worsened by climate change. In 2017, wildfires caused Oregon to lose \$51.5 million in visitor spending and the US Forest Service is now spending more than half its budget on fighting fires.

Last year a new report came out that shows we have 11 years to reduce emissions before our climate fate is sealed. I am waiting for a call from my son announcing the birth of my first grandson. I want my grandson to grow up without fear of smoke filled skies. Please do everything in your power to protect his future. Passing the Clean Energy Jobs bill this year is an important first step.

Thank you,

Dr. Barbara Ruben
3150 NE 32nd Ave
Portland, OR 97212