

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

My name is Yukiko Bowman, and I live in Southeast Portland. I'm writing in support of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs Bill.

Clean air is a benefit shared by all, and that affects everyone's health. Indeed, it's the very stuff we're made of -- the molecules we breathe go into our bodies, are absorbed into our blood streams and our organs. In the same way we are what we eat, we are also what we breathe.

Given this, it seems wholly irrational that a select group of large-scale polluters in our state are allowed, without significant consequence, to compromise our SHARED resource of clean air. Those who bear the brunt of the 'right' of these industry giants to continue their uncapped carbon emissions are those of us **who do not profit**, and indeed it is society's most vulnerable -- the children and elderly -- who bear the greatest brunt.

We're beyond debating the verity of global warming. The question now is how we can slow it -- how, as Oregonians, we can be proactive about embracing an evolving economy based on clean energy, and not be left behind. If we wait too long, our only choice will be to be REACTIVE, which is never a powerful position from which to face the future.

Yes, it may be an uncomfortable transition at first for our largest industrial polluters -- but the more quickly they evolve their technologies the more quickly they will ACTUALLY BE AHEAD, in the long run. Please don't let their fear-mongering tactics dissuade you from making the morally right decision.

Taking control of the health of our state needs to happen right now, through strong cap and trade legislation that will reduce carbon emissions by 2 million metric tons annually. We can't afford to wait for a couple more decades -- that's twenty more years of smoke-filled summers of choking wildfire, twenty more years of erratic weather conditions, twenty more years of potential drought and lower-than average rain and snowfall here in the PNW.

Please do everything in your power to pass the Clean Energy Jobs bill. I love my state, and its breathtaking beauty. I also love my child, and her breathtaking youth. Please act to protect the future of both.

Sincerely,
Yukiko Bowman