



UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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RE: Proposed Cap and Trade HB 2020

While I would not argue that we have a global problem with what appears to be a trend toward climate change, HB 2020 puts entirely too much burden on the citizens and economy of Oregon. The proposed Cap and Trade Bill, HB 2020, is a complex piece of legislation that will affect everyone in Oregon for the rest of their lives, especially rural areas in Eastern Oregon.

The economies of rural Oregon, particularly in Eastern Oregon, have been subjected to outside forces that have decimated our citizen's potential to make a living. While these ideas have all been proposed with the best intentions, they have in fact done more damage than good to Oregon's economy and environment. The results of decades of well intentioned, but ill-informed natural resource policy has led to high unemployment, a weak economy, and forest and grasslands in an unhealthy state primed for catastrophic wildfire.

HB 2020, as it is proposed, is going to be devastating to our rural communities. This legislation will impact lives and livelihoods and create undue hardships for an ineffective and expensive plan.

I ask that you reconsider moving forward with HB 2020. It seems inequitable to me that the citizens of Oregon bear the Global burden, while much of the rest of the world continues to operate with little regulation or responsibility for environmental well-being.

Thank you for your consideration,

Paul Anderes
Union County Commissioner