

To Co-chairs Senator Michael Dembrow and Representative Karin Power, and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

I am a community minister for a small congregation in Gresham, Oregon. I am writing in support of HB 2020 and the Clean Energy Jobs bill. I support this bill because of my faith. We need to care for the world and each other.

I find this legislation compelling because it continues Oregon's green legacy and adds in care for the poor. I like the fact that the carbon credits raise money that will benefit our economy and create jobs for regular people. I want the money to be dedicated to rural economies and help for small farmers. I want the job creation around new energy options predicted by a recent study. I see prosperous places where carbon credits are already in place and I want Oregon to be part of it.

I know that some people think that Oregon can only do so much. Sometimes, by thinking small and by trying to be 'smart', we end up outsmarting ourselves. The idea that old industries that pollute should find a comfortable home in Oregon is not what Oregonians want. Oregonians consistently poll as wanting to save the environment, even if it costs them. However this bill does not cost them. It will create jobs while we do the right thing.

Industry is doing what they do. They want to be exempt from participating. Of course! I firmly believe that all high carbon industries need to participate. I support giving them more time, but not a pass. They are also saying that the sky will fall and they will leave unless they are left out of the system. Listen. You can't give any one industry a pass

or they will all want a pass. Then the system is so broken that it is ridiculous and ineffective. It also looks corrupt.

I know it takes courage to make these kind of changes. It's hard to cut through the different arguments and do the right thing. However it must help to know that we will be part of a larger carbon market that has already proved its effectiveness. We won't be alone in this. I believe that you all have the courage to face the future and pass this legislation. Be brave!

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