

From: [Joshua Dirksen](#)
To: [JCCR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Support for HB2020
Date: Thursday, March 7, 2019 5:36:53 PM

March 2, 2019

Senator Denbrow and Representative Power
Co-Chairs, Oregon Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction
900 Court Street NE
Salem Oregon 97301

RE: Testimony on House Bill 2020 from Professional Snowboarder Josh Dirksen

Good morning Senator Denbrow, Representative Power, and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction.

My name is Josh Dirksen, I am a professional snowboarder and proud resident of the state of Oregon. I grew up outside of Eugene and later moved to Bend, where I established my career as an ambassador for brands including Patagonia, Salomon, Smith, Mt Bachelor, and Protect Our Winters.

My 20 year snowboard career has included competing in snowboarding's premier events like the X-games, landing cover photos and interviews in the industries largest magazines, and filming with top production companies that include Warren Miller and Teton Gravity Research.

As an outdoor athlete who has traveled throughout the world, it has not been difficult to notice that climate change is warming our winters, melting our glaciers and negatively affecting our outdoor industry. Winter surely looks different than it did when I first started snowboarding over 30 years ago.

Snowsports is a large contributor to Oregon's \$16.4 billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and a large part of this economy is wrapped up in local events and competitions. In 2007, I started a snowboard race at Mt. Bachelor called The Dirksen Derby. Since our first event, we have hosted over 4000 competitors and raised over \$225,000 for local non-profits and friends-in-need.

The continued success of the Dirksen Derby and our snowsports community depends on a stable climate and snowy winters. With every inconsistent winter, our community's economy and livelihood suffers. Snow is our currency.

You have the opportunity to pass HB2020, which is a win for both our environment and our economy. You have the opportunity to protect our outdoor recreation economy. I understand that you have heard from others who want to weaken this legislation. I ask you to hold the line and choose progress over perfection.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Our friends, our families and this beautiful state of Oregon depends on it.