

Dear members of the Joint Commission on Carbo Reduction, Senator Burdick and Representative Williamson,

I am a full-throated supporter of HB2020 and hope that with your help, as Senate President Peter Cortney has said, this bill should be passed during the 2019 Legislative Session. Oregon has the opportunity to lead and position our state to be a clean energy economic engine in the 21st century. The declining cap on permissible under this bill guarantees a reduction of around 2 million metric tons of green house gas pollution every year, which is the amount of CO2 emitted by the equivalent of 425.000 cars each year.

Not only reducing the amount of carbon emitted into the atmosphere, an independent economic study presented to the legislature this year shows that HB2020 will benefit our economy, adding to household incomes across all tax brackets because it will create 50,000 good-paying jobs while the transition to cleaner energy will lower costs for people and businesses. Major investments will go to reducing pollution while growing opportunities for low-income and rural communities, tribes and communities of color and for training workers throughout the state. Hundreds of millions of dollars per year in proceeds from Clean Energy Jobs will be reinvested in clean-energy solutions, putting Oregonians to work making clean power like wind and solar available to more people, improving energy efficiency in homes and businesses to save people money, and investing in more transportation options.

Experience is mounting across the country, showing cap-and-invest programs are effective ways to grow economies, decrease CO2 emissions, create stable energy prices and create thousands of jobs along the way. Already 10 states have successful programs in operation, including our west coast neighbors in California and Washington. Since cap-and-trade was introduced in California, the state has outperformed Texas and the rest of the U.S. in manufacturing output, growing in real terms by 26%. California's carbon price has also created good, union manufacturing jobs in the poorest parts of the state. We need to make sure that Oregon is next!

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

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