

Dear Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction Members:

With ample evidence of the seriousness of climate change, it is time to act, and to act in a productive manner which benefits us all. The need to address climate change is not new. In 2007, the Oregon Legislature established climate change goals for the state through [House Bill 3543](#). HB 3543 called on Oregon to prepare for the effects of climate change, and set specific greenhouse gas reduction goals:

- Arrest the growth and begin reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2010.
- Achieve greenhouse gas levels that are 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020.
- Achieve greenhouse gas levels that are at least 75 percent below 1990 levels by 2050.

I have followed the development of the Clean Energy Jobs Bill (BB2020), and believe it will move Oregon forward towards meeting those goals. I have not been active in advocating for the bill until recently as I have trusted the legislature would recognize seriousness of the issue and the merits of the bill, however, it now appears that reinforcement is needed. The bill is the right solution and this is the right year to act.

Clearly, this bill will have a large impact, as it must. But the construction of the bill takes into account the realities businesses and communities will face and provides mitigation to those potentially facing the most serious impacts.

The concept embodied by the bill is not new; many years ago, Congress enacted a successful bipartisan bill which set up a cap & trade system to address acid rain. More recently, several states have successfully used the concept for the same purpose as the current proposal. Those states have not suffered economic setbacks. This structure sets the ground rules, but allows the private sector to do what it does best, innovate to adapt to changing markets and conditions.

I know and understand the concerns about impacts to industry and jobs and am concerned about those possible impacts, particularly impacts to the non-metropolitan areas of the state. However, The Berkeley study reported that our economy will be benefit by the passage of the bill, and it notes benefits would also accrue to rural Oregon.

While the bill certainly will reduce our climate impact, it will also help with needed changes to our economy and impacts to businesses and families. It will improve our job situation, particularly in rural areas which will be able to avail themselves to job training and assistance for solar and other energy improvements to homes, schools and businesses. Low income folks will be able to reduce their energy bills by utilizing more energy efficiency improvements. Farmers can be helped to make changes that will result in less water and energy use.

Unlike the economics of gasoline where half the cost result from extraction, a quarter of the cost is from refining, 6% goes to distribution, and the balance to taxes, moving toward a clean energy economy will mean a variety of local jobs and revenue rather than benefits transferred out of state. By emphasizing new jobs and job training, our citizens and economy will be aiming at the future rather than clinging to old technology and job structures.

Recognizing there will be adjustments required by industry under the bill, the bill has allowances to utilities and industries that are deemed Emissions Intensive or Trade Exposed for the specific purpose of assuring the impact is fair. Plus, the bill's Just Transition Program will provide assistance to support communities and workers who will be impacted. For those of us in heavily forested areas, we are encouraged to see the bill also provides an avenue to recognize the benefits of carbon capture provided by our private forest lands.

In the short run, the bill may increase transportation and fuel costs for some people or economic sectors, but the assistance provided under the bill will moderate those impacts and help us get ahead of the curve. For businesses which may face increased costs, they may pass along at least part of the cost to their customers to minimize the impact. Since the impacts will likely be felt across the board, there appears to be little reason for customers to go elsewhere.

In sum, the necessity to act is now urgent. But just as important as acting, the bill is not an over-reaction, is well considered, and addresses making the necessary transition as painless as possible.

I encourage you to enact the bill.

Thank you.

Dick Dolgonas
Roseburg, Oregon