

Dear Co-chairs Dembrow and Power, and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

My name is Tanya Zarling, and I'm from the St. Johns neighborhood in Portland. I am writing in support of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

I wanted to point out how much this bill will benefit not only our climate, but our state economy as well. HB 2020 will add to household income across all tax brackets as a result of creating over 50,000 good-paying jobs, which was pointed out by an independent economic study presented to the legislature earlier this year. This will be a major investment into reducing pollution and growing opportunities for low-income and rural communities, tribes, communities of color, and for training workers in Oregon. The best part about this bill, in my opinion, is that we have the opportunity to see how it's been working elsewhere. Ten other states have already set up successful cap-and-invest programs, and all of them have growing economies and decreasing CO2 emissions.

I graduated from the Environmental Studies program at Portland State University last year, and during my studies I was able to gain an in-depth look at various aspects of climate change's effects, and I became increasingly aware of the dire state our planet is headed for. Climate change is set to be the greatest threat to all life on earth in the coming decades, and has already has an impact on my own life. Because of climate change, have reconsidered having kids because I don't want them to be living in a world of chaos and environmental catastrophe. It's frustrating thinking about what kind of place young children will be left with after years of economic development without accounting for environmental repercussions. Passing the Clean Energy Jobs bill is a bold step toward a sound climate future for all Oregonians.

Thank you,

Tanya Zarling

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