

Dear Co-Chairs Dembrow and Power, and all members of your committee, please vote for a strong version of HB2020. I love patience with the far too common usage of the term “existential” these days, because I believe there are only one or two truly existential issues before us, and I fear overuse of the term will eventually trivialize the truly existential issue - climate change attributable to carbon emissions.

I am now 69 years old, and have four children, ages 28-34. I do not consider it within my power to leave them a pristine atmosphere with breathable air and potable water, but I do want to leave them a legacy of the best efforts in that direction. I believe a strong, even strengthened HB2020 would represent that kind of effort.

I am particularly interested in a bill that has NO full exemptions, because I believe all parties must contribute to the eventual solution. The top-heavy emissions of the 100 heaviest polluters - 84% of the total greenhouse emissions state-wide - recommends demanding full and early participation in a program of carbon drawdown by the most prolific emitters.

I also urge interim drawdown requirements, with strong enforcement provisions. I understand and accept the the short-term costs can mean increased tax burdens, and consider that a small sacrifice compared to the importance of an inhabitable planet for my children and all future generations.

Please consider my children as well as your own as you undertake the cost-benefit analysis of strong and early response to limit, and even reverse, climate change.

Thank you

David O Wilson