



March 19, 2019

To: Chairperson / Committee Members
From: Union County Chamber of Commerce / S.M-H
RE: Carbon Cap & Trade

HB2020, as it is proposed, will negatively impact businesses and livelihoods for those of us who live in the North East Oregon Region and across the state of Oregon.

Prior to moving HB2020 forward, we are formally requesting a comprehensive outreach plan, as outlined below.

The proposed Cap and Trade Bill HB2020 is a complex piece of legislation that will negatively affect Oregonians for the rest of our lives; especially rural areas like ours in Eastern Oregon. As written, HB 2020 will have a negative impact on commerce in rural farming communities, which are primarily supported by small businesses. Small businesses cannot thrive under HB2020.

We have concerns regarding the outreach hearing held in Baker City on February 25th, 2019.

We, the Union County Chamber of Commerce and all of our Members, urge you to conduct a more comprehensive outreach program in all of the Eastern Oregon Counties. At the Baker City meeting there were over 300 citizens that attended but only 30 were able to testify given the 1-hour time limit; this is not acceptable nor does it represent all of the varied thoughts and opinions of our Region.

In regards to HB2020, we are formally requesting that meetings with representatives be held in Baker City, La Grande, Pendleton, Burns, Ontario, Joseph and John Day without a set time limit. These towns represent the greater populations of Union, Baker, Wallowa, Malheur, Umatilla, Harney and Grant Counties.

Thank you,

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