



OREGON STATE SENATE

February 4, 2020

ATTN:  
 Legislative Revenue Office  
 Legislative Fiscal Office  
 Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
 Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue

On behalf of the Senate Republican Caucus, I am writing with a request for a study on the economic impacts of Senate Bill (SB) 1530 and SB 1574 on Oregonians. We are fundamentally opposed to the Berkley Energy and Resources Model (BEAR) report as the only measure to quantify the true impacts of cap and trade on Oregon communities.

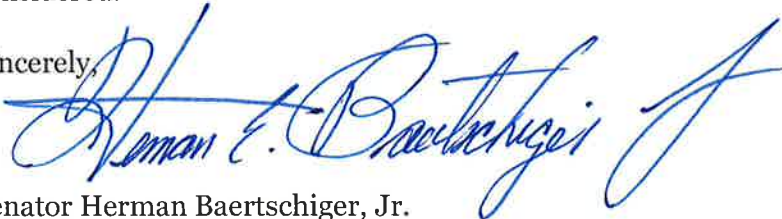
Last session, the BEAR report was introduced before House Bill (HB) 2020 was finalized. When asked how one could give a full account on the impacts of the BEAR report without even reading HB 2020, the response in committee was inadequate, to say the least.

Economic analysis under similar revenue documents on carbon pricing schemes indicate extensive regressive impacts on all income levels, except the wealthiest Oregonians. Furthermore, these models were under circumstances with simultaneous tax cuts to low-income individuals, and the carbon tax was still regressive.

Given that the BEAR report is insufficient in its study, and there are conflicting analyses done on similar legislation, we are seeking the full economic impact statements for SB 1530, SB 1574, and any bill the language about tax-free carbon credit allowances will be moved to. We request:

- Economic impact statements for SB 1530 and SB 1574 and the statewide ramifications.
- Economic effects on household incomes by region under the scheme of SB 1530 and SB 1574.

We request the contents of these required statements prior to the bills moving out of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources to ensure policy amendments can be considered.


Sincerely,  


Senator Herman Baertschiger, Jr.  
 Senate Republican Leader



OREGON STATE SENATE

  
 Senator Denyc Boles

  
 Senator Brian Boquist

  
 Senator Lynn Findley

  
 Senator Fred Girod

  
 Senator Bill Hansell

  
 Senator Dallas Heard

  
 Senator Tim Knopp

  
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