

Testimony in Support of HB 4167 & SB 1530

Chair Holvey, and Vice Chairs Drazen and Smith-Warner,

My name is Dr. Pat DeLaquil, and I support HB 4167 and SB 1530.

As Oregonians, we find ourselves at an unfamiliar crossroads between truth and lies, fact and myth, rich and poor, to the point that the wheels of government are about to bounce off their rails. In spite of years of crafting, compromise and public hearings, we find that nothing is the only acceptable solution for some. Lies have been used to strike fear into the hearts of good, hard working rural families. Science is distorted, and worst case economic scenarios are presented as fact. Yet, time and again, the economic record has shown that environmental requirements grow new industries and spur economic development. The 11 states that have already implemented cap-and-invest programs have experienced growing economies, falling CO2 emissions, stable energy prices, and thousands of jobs created. The transition to cleaner energy and sustainable forestry and agriculture will create jobs and economic development in rural and coastal communities.

Why are lies so effective in politics? Because when people are afraid, they don't think clearly, and focus their concern on alarming near-term issues, such as the price of gasoline and diesel. Gone is any concern for the longer term and the possibility of a better future, because their leaders promote an "us versus them" perspective on this and other issues. Climate change is real and has been accelerating at an alarming pace of the last 20 years. To deny the facts, the abundant and alarming evidence of our own eyes, is the height of folly. As a global civilization we are rapidly approaching several climate tipping points that we will be unable to stop. The more we delay, the greater harm we bequeath to our children and all future generations.

To my fellow Oregonians in Timber Unity, I beseech you to not fight for the limited livelihoods that the corporate owners of **our** forest resources give to you. It's scraps compared to the livelihoods you once had before large corporations began exporting our timber and the jobs that came with turning that timber into lumber.

Join with us to fight for a better future with jobs and stable economic development in sustainable forestry, weatherization, constructing and maintaining solar and wind power plants, and much more. Finally, let's lead the way because

- **It's the right thing to do!**
- There will be an **economic cost** that most will be able to afford, while low income and rural families are protected from any increases.
- There will be a **much more serious economic cost for all of us**, including loss of life and property, if we do not stop our pollution quickly. Consider climate change to be like a steam locomotive. The more we continue to dump GHGs into the atmosphere we more fuel we are adding to a locomotive that is already speeding out of control. We cannot undo what has been done, but we can and **MUST** stop adding more fuel as quickly as possible.

- By moving now, Oregon will **give its businesses a head start** on their competitors in building the industries and jobs of the future. Clean energy is already the number one creator of new jobs in America, and these jobs cannot be outsourced or automated.

Sincerely,

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