

The state of Oregon has been hit hard due to Covid-19, fires, ice, and the government thinking they are mightier than it's people. We get our food, lumber, fuel, and all other products from hard working men and women who use tools such as diesel powered equipment. They barely make a living as it is today but now you want to tax them even more just so you can pretend you care about the environment. Farmers, loggers, and others who would be hit with these taxes are actually doing more to improve our emissions than anyone else in this state and country. Those who live in cities are causing the most damage with over population and vehicles (even electric cars cause massive damage to the earth just to mine their batteries).

You think it is so simple to just buy new equipment, pay the tax and move on. Where do you think that money is going to come from? Farmers, loggers, and even your road companies do not have money laying around just to buy new equipment or to pay higher and higher taxes. Taxing these people will not making things better, it will hurt these people, their families, and every consumer. Costs will hit everyone. It is handed down to consumers so the companies don't die. There is absolutely no reason to change the original bill (other than to remove it), to add more taxes to already out of control taxing policies. Think for one moment please. How much do you pay for milk, eggs, your organic foods, those special gluten free-fat free-low calorie foods that you love so much? How about your fancy furniture? Your "low income" housing you seem to love? Now double the prices because those farmers, loggers, construction companies are now paying more taxes and having to buy more equipment due to your penny pinching taxes and DEQ requirements. The prices will go up. Not if, but when they do, you will see more and more people living in tents, losing jobs, homes, and then your "income" you thought the tax would bring in, has now lost the economy even more money. All for you to think you are doing something "good" but you failed to do research, understand how economics works, and actually understand how much farmers, loggers, construction companies earn and do for our economy. There are many people this tax would affect, including you. All in a negative way. I live in a small community that does not have a high number of jobs. People here survive by farming and logging, as well as renting equipment to farmers because farmers cannot afford to purchase their own equipment. We have one grocery store that already has high prices that many struggle to pay. Communities like mine supply onions, potatoes, hay, alfalfa, eggs, beef, vegetables, and even lamb meat, to many in the state of Oregon and elsewhere. But we struggle each month to pay bills, keep people working, and pray for enough rain and sunshine to keep doing what we love. Please, please do not pass this bill. Please do not add more hardships to our families, friends, neighbors, yourselves, and everyone in this state and more. This bill do not improve Oregon lives, it will create more loss and hardships.

Thank you, Shawn Andrew