

My name is Brian Ettling. For 25 years, I worked as a seasonal park ranger at Crater Lake National Park, Oregon. It's one of the most beautiful places on the planet. Sadly, I saw climate change while working there with the fire seasons getting worse, the average annual snowpack decreasing, the average surface lake temperature rising, etc. Our sacred national parks are getting hammered by climate change in Oregon and worldwide. For the past four years, I have lived in outer NE Portland OR. Last summer, the smoke for the forest fires, made worse by climate change, really frightened me. I did not feel safe to go outside for over a week. I was one of the luck ones. Too many Oregonians lost their properties, businesses, jobs, and even family members or their own lives to these fires.

It's time we do all we can to reduce the threat of climate change. What must we do? Bill McKibben, founder of the grassroots climate campaign 350.org recently wrote a January 22, 2021 article for the New Yorker called "To Counter Climate Change, We Need to Stop Burning Things." Period. Full stop. End of story.

It's time to stop burning fossil fuels such oil, coal, and natural gas, which are all warming up our planet. It's time to switch to clean energy such as solar, wind, tidal and even renewable hydrogen. This bill will direct the Oregon Department of Energy to conduct a study of renewable hydrogen benefits in Oregon. Renewable hydrogen, if the study proves to be beneficial, could be one tool for energy consumption to Oregon that does not increase the threat of climate change. It is well worth pursuing every solution to reduce climate change, which scientists call an existential threat.

Therefore, I urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,
Brian Ettling