

To Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

I am a 4th generation Oregonian living in unincorporated Washington County. I am the result of business roots on one side of my family and farming roots on the other.

I am writing in support of SJM5-1.

The farming side of my family lost their farm in the Great Depression and so relocated in Oregon from North Dakota in the early 20th century. That line never was wealthy, but they were hard workers, especially the women, who knew how to put a healthy meal on the table with whatever they had. The business arm of the family launched a heating, air conditioning, and ventilation business after WW2 which ultimately evolved to designing air handling equipment for high tech companies in Washington County.

The farming side of my family was more emotionally-driven and artistic and able to recognize and celebrate beauty while the business side of my family was more rational, rooted in engineering principles, and Scottish frugal roots.

The farming side of my family thought of politics and government as disconnected from their lives. Laws and programs were the result of distant and 'elite' people who lived in cities or made decisions surrounded by wood paneled walls. The business side were community-minded people who saw government as a sort of 'necessary evil' with some good intentions, but woefully inefficient at delivering services and a drag on small businesses' ability to operate, produce goods and employ local people.

Climate change for me is not about polar bears and ice caps. And I don't think it should be about the policies of any one political party. Climate change is about people who come from a wide array of political sensibilities.

Gleaning from the sensibilities and values of both sides of my family, I respectfully submit the following reasons Oregon legislators should support SJM5-1:

Climate disruption should be dealt with at the national and international level and this resolution urges such an approach

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act appeals to both Democrats and Republicans

The US Chamber of Commerce calls for action on climate change and supports policies that are "practical, flexible, predictable, and durable"...This policy is all of those.

Respected elder Republican statesman, the late Secretary of State and Treasury George Schultz, supported this policy

The carbon fee is the most efficient approach to transforming our economy away from fossil fuels. Opportunities unleashed by the passage of a national carbon fee will be limited only by the imagination and resourcefulness of Oregonians. Everybody will be able to see how much money they can make by saving energy, making a new low-carbon product, investing in a rural energy cooperative or coastal wave energy project. All of this innovation and investment will grow Oregon's economy and create good-paying jobs.

The dividend will allow people control over their own lives as the transition away from fossil fuels occurs.

The dividend is the fairest approach to offsetting the impacts of increased fossil fuel costs.

The Energy Innovation Act is a small-government approach to a big problem. It does not rely on government programs to take a big bite out of fossil fuel emissions, leaving more money available for government to play a role where there is no private sector alternative

Oregonians need healthy oceans, forests, and stable weather patterns in order to provide future job and recreation opportunities for our children and grandchildren.

If this passes with bipartisan support, Oregon will be signaling to Washington DC lawmakers that we are a diverse state that wants and expects Congress to pass bipartisan solutions that work for everyone.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

-Daniela Brod