## 15 + 1 REASONS TO SUPPORT SJM-5

Being a pragmatist who focuses action on what's both effective and achievable, I support SJM 5, to send a message to Congress that Oregon supports carbon fees in general and the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (EICDA) specifically.

Time is of the essence – if it's not too late already. Let's get something passed on a national level that can start providing definitive results, that is **fair, simple, effective and achievable**.

### **FAIR**

- 1. **Nationwide**, instead of statewide, as was Oregon HB2020. A nationwide bill would not negatively impact Oregon businesses nor consumers compared to other states.
- 2. Includes a border adjustment to protect U.S. trade thus making it fair for businesses that compete internationally.
- 3. Returns carbon dividends back to households.
- 4. **Provides for social equity** in which the great majority of lower income households will receive more back in dividends than they spend in increases to fossil fuel pricing.
- 5. Will create jobs estimates for job creation in clean energy and energy efficiency industries is 2.1 million
- 6. Provides for a special waiver for agriculture
- 7. **Predictable for businesses** since they'll know how much the tax will impact fossil fuel prices year after year, while also limiting additional regulations.

#### SIMPLE

- 8. Easy to Administer, collecting the fee at the source.
- 9. **Much more straightforward than cap-and-trade**, in which a special marketplace would have to be created for trading carbon credits. A carbon fee is also far less likely to be manipulated to the detriment of its purpose, as would be the case for professional cap-and-trade brokers.
- 10. Far reaching by taxing all fossil fuels used for energy generation.
- 11. **Reduces redundant regulation** with a pause to Federal EPA authority to regulate the CO2 that are covered by the fee, unless after 10 years emission targets are not being met.

#### EFFECTIVE

- 12. Will create a 40% reduction in CO2 by the 12<sup>th</sup> year it is implemented, by gradually increasing the fee, it is forecast that the EICDA specifically
- 13. **Economists agree** that a gradually increasing carbon fee is a highly effective, market-based, easy-to-implement method of reducing carbon emissions.
- 14. Leaves room for additional carbon emission reduction legislation, particularly keeping federal automobile CAFÉ standards in place to address demand elasticity for the use of gasoline.

#### ACHIEVABLE (It can be passed)

15. **Supported by businesses** – The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has issued a statement in support of federal legislation to reduce carbon emissions, with explicit support for market-based solutions. A carbon fee is the simplest market-based approach.

# +1 Most likely solution to gain bi-partisan support with

- Support from the business community for a market-based approach
- Protection for farmers
- Reduction of redundant regulations
- Simplicity
- o Social equity by returning dividends back to those most in need in a greater share than they pay in

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