

04 March 2023

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment

Re: House Bill 3196

Dear Chair Representative Marsh, Vice-Chairs Representatives B. Levy and E. Levy, and members of the Committee;

The sponsors and supporters of this bill would claim that the ultimate point of this legislation is about our environment, but it looks to me it is once again just reinforcing historical battle lines in what is actually a bid for yet more dollars.

The state of Oregon is more and more lining up behind financing of the so-called Green Agenda policies. It is past time to look behind the surface of public climate activist campaigns to the actual order of business. The picture that emerges is the financial reorganization of our state's economy by turning into a commodity any raw material or resource containing the word carbon, all the while trying to convince us ordinary folks to make untold sacrifices to *save our planet*.

Climate change can be viewed as the latest rationale for converting a public commons—our atmosphere—into a privatized asset, along with the attending ownership rights and the machinery, i.e., a state administrative bureaucracy to enforce related regulations. More power in the hands of unelected agency bureaucrats.

Someday, politicians, journalists, bureaucrats, educators, and ordinary citizens will notice that the predictions of doom and gloom about the climate are flexible and that it is nonsense to say the science is settled and that the only way to protect the planet and survive is to hand over millions of dollars to the state of Oregon so it can pretend to control atmospheric temperatures, and sea levels, and storm activity—*forever*. The camel's head is through the tent door and this bill, like so many other related ones, indicate this type of legislation is far from being the end of it.

I urge the Committee to table this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Wisner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Richard Wisner