

08 March 2023

Senate Committee on Education

Re: Senate Bill 854

Dear Chair Senator Dembrow, Vice-Chair Senator Weber, and members of the Committee;

It cannot be stressed too many times that for many years the theory of the driving forces of climate change have not been presented with a balanced view, but rather with a particular agenda in mind, that humanity is harming the planet. With the prevalence of public and policy discourse heavily influenced by the way it is represented in the media, by campaigning organizations, by advertisers, by *green energy* vendors and other vested interests, there is no reason to believe that any *climate change instructional program* in our schools would be immune to these influences. Particularly in this day and age this committee should, if anyone does, understand that the media do not, in fact, act as neutral conveyors of information.

In today's climate (pun intended) of climate change hysteria it is doubtful any *climate change instructional program* promulgated in public schools would be a balanced course between differing views of the many inputs affecting our planet's ever-changing climate. My contention is that SB 854 would reinforce the current move to rid of us of all fossil based fuels - with the subsequent dire consequences for the prosperity of our state.

My contention is that SB 854 would result in a program of pure propaganda promulgating the theory Earth's climate changes are due to humanity's actions—currently, as I'm sure you're aware, the predominant view. The aim of the "education" that SB 854 is promoting would not be to spread unbiased knowledge of our climate at all but simply to reduce as many student as possible to the same, safe, standardized beliefs.

As bad, is the stipulation to withhold monies from school districts for non-compliance with SB 854. I believe that's known as coercion, although not an unheard of tactic for receiving public funds, state or federal.

The only positive I see in SB 854 is it indicates that at least proponents of anthropological climate change are worried enough that their ideological belief systems are losing traction that they need to legitimize their beliefs by a requirement for an "approved" education of the Earth's climate. I like to think this is a good sign as more and more people beginning to question that narrative.

Please table Senate Bill 854. It has no place in Oregon's educational system.

Sincerely,


Richard Wisner