

Submitter: Paul Bentley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3152

Climate change is real but how much can we scientifically prove? Fossil fuels have been in use for about 175 years and during that timeframe the temperature on earth has risen approximately 1 deg. Celsius. Humans have managed that change quite well with very minimal impacts to earth. In fact, the death rate due to extreme climate events has been reduced by 98% due to our ability to build more weather resistive structures, dams etc. all thanks to fossil fuels. What about all the great things fossil fuels produce such as medical equipment, surgical tubing and instruments which save lives. Human life expectancy and the ability to enjoy life have skyrocketed over the past 175 years. Fossil fuels have allowed us to develop medicines and protections making life much more manageable for every human being. World poverty could be greatly reduced by getting reasonably priced fossil fuel energy to 3rd world countries increasing both quality and length of life for the people who live in such places. Fossil fuels have given humans the ability to secure food and shelter relatively easily, freeing up our time to create specialty fields in medicine and energy to bring mankind to an amazing level of livability. If given the time, we may even develop a strategy utilizing fossil fuels to reduce any negative impacts they may cause.

We must slow down this politically driven false narrative and really examine the scientific evidence. For example, we have roughly 150 years of accurate weather data as compared to nearly 5 billion years of earth weather. Drawing scientific conclusions on such limited data is suspect at best. If CO2 is the main issue, then why are we not pursuing more nuclear and hydro energy, both of which have the best safety records of any energy source? Why do we never discuss the many pros that fossil fuels have brought this planet? Why do we accept expert testimony from politically driven scientists whose predictions over the past 50 years have been incorrect and even 180 degrees off from their current predictions?

We know that 80% of our electricity is produced by the use of fossil fuels and if we eliminate them, how do we replace 80% of our electrical grid while at the same time increasing demand several hundred fold? It simply cannot be done overnight and must be phased in over decades. The world will not end, nor will the climate change if you outlaw gas fired appliances with this proposed legislation. You have zero scientifically proven data to even suggest that it will have any impact on the earth. Our entire country cannot put enough fossil fuel regulation in place to even have a minimal impact on the globe while China, India, and many other countries are doing what they do to the global environment.

These types of feel good politically driven rules only hurt hard working Americans and increase government control while reducing the freedoms that have made this county the place so many people are desperately trying to get into. Please vote no on this ridiculous HB 3152 and hold a real honest debate about this issue based on real scientific data which listens to not only the negative side of fossil fuels, but considers the many positive impacts fossil fuels have had on the human race. Most Oregonians feel as I do, that you have much more important and pressing issues to resolve.

Thank you

Paul Bentley