

TESTIMONY TO HOUSE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Marilyn Sewell, Minister Emerita

First Unitarian Church, Portland

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My name is Marilyn Sewell, and I am the Minister Emerita of the First Unitarian Church of Portland. I want to speak in support of HB 3250.

We all know of the dangers of global warming, and we know we are at a point of crisis. This is not the first time that humans have despoiled the earth, but it is the first time when we have held the fate of the earth and her creatures in our hands.

Both conservative and liberal economists favor a carbon tax as the ideal way to reduce harmful emissions.* I hope that Oregon will become ^{one of the first states} the first state to enact such a tax, continuing our role as an environmental leader, and then seeing other states follow. Our Oregon legislature has the power to make a difference, in this the most important moral issue of our day. I urge you to vote "yes" on HB 3250.

*See William Nordhaus, *The Climate Casino*, Chapter 19, pp. 220-232.