

Dear Chair Edwards and Honorable Committee Members,

I was hoping to testify in person on this important issue, but just learned that it won't be possible so I'm submitting my testimony and a copy of my Council's resolution in writing so that you will have an opportunity to know what other elected officials think.

Although Senate Bill 965 has gotten little play in the press and isn't one of the hot topics in the hallways of the capitol, it is indeed *the* most important law you will pass this decade if not in your entire careers. This law is utterly critical to the future of Oregon and indeed to the rest of the world. With Oregon joining California and British Columbia in this action, Washington won't be far behind and as with most things; the rest of the country will follow our leadership. We have an opportunity to create a model that doesn't unfairly affect the poor; we have an opportunity to create a model that will be very difficult to be reversed, once passed, even if the political control pendulums to the right.

Carbon pricing is the most important single thing that government can do to forestall the worst of climate change and it must be done immediately. We currently teeter on the edge of the tipping point, the point after which there will be nothing in our technology that will be able to reverse the worst effects of catastrophic climate change.

It is impossible to stress too strongly how important and immediate this issue is. We, all of us, have dithered far too long with concerns about how any action might affect our economy. We risk very dire consequences for our children and grandchildren.

Cap-and-Trade has been in effect in California for three years now and yet they came out of the great "recession" faster than we did, it has had no ill effects on their economy.

Please not only move this bill forward but champion it unto law.

Thank you for your time,

Respectfully,

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