

# *Morrow County Livestock Growers*

PO Box 397 | 54173 Hwy 74  
Heppner, OR 97836  
541.676.9642

---

February 14, 2019

Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

## **Re: HB 2020 – Cap and Trade Proposal**

Chairs Dembrow and Power and Committee Members:

The Morrow County Livestock Growers Association is urging a reconsideration of HB 2020 because of the significant, unfair and unproportioned costs to farmers and ranchers in our communities. You are asking hardworking, rural families to bear the burden of this expense without considering the idea that all Oregonians should contribute to this challenge.

We are very disappointed to see that HB 2020 includes agricultural fuels, in particular, under the carbon cap and urge the committee to amend the bill, at the very least, for these dyed fuels to be exempt. Our support lies with the Oregon Cattleman's Association when they state that HB 2020 shifts the political desires and popular focus on climate change in Oregon to those living, working, and owning business in rural areas of Oregon. HB2020, essentially, is punishing those of us who choose to live in rural areas and contribute meaningfully to the agricultural industry. With substantial distances to travel on a daily basis and greater transportation costs across the board, you are asking a few of us to bear the burden when we are already at an economic disadvantage.

It is our belief that HB2020 creates a spiraling, out-of-control cost-effect on our operations. The cost of market delivery will destroy our bottom line—a line that is crucial for our survival.

Morrow County Livestock Growers Association is determined to be stewards of the land and pass that heritage on to the next generation in a better state. HB2020 prohibits this desire in a very real and catastrophic way. We are part of a greater Oregon agricultural industry and oppose HB2020 as drafted.

Sincerely,

*Morrow County Livestock Growers Association*