



2/22/19

To: Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction
Co-chairs Dembrow and Power and Members of the Committee,

My name is Linda Perrine. I am the owner of Honor Earth Farm, an organic farm here in Lane County. Thank you for your service to Oregon on this important issue.

Our country has known about the risks of burning fossil fuels since the 1920's and the dawn of gasoline fueled vehicles. Over the last 100 years, we chose to ignore the consequences of treating the atmosphere as a dump in favor of creating an economy built on the assumption of endless growth. We are now being told by IPCC scientists that we have 11 years remaining until catastrophic collapse of ecosystems. There is no more time for debate, only action from this point forward. The Oregon Cap & Invest bill is a start at action on climate change and the carbon sequestration funding to support sustainable agriculture and forestry must remain. The major flaw in this bill is the ability of the carbon polluters to pass down their compliance costs to consumers. Why is there not a mandate for 50/50 share of compliance costs between corporations & consumers?

In the next 30 years we will determine whether Americans truly care about our own children, other species, and the fragility of the only planet known to support life. My years working for NASA's Space Shuttle program allowed me to marvel at the beauty of our planet from space that only pales to the beauty found here amongst Oregon's natural places. From childhood on, I have never understood why we choose to destroy this magical place in favor of more stuff, more pavement, more cities, and more pollution. Today humans have created an ecological crisis that threatens all life on Earth with many issues beyond climate change. In other words, we need to care about something besides profits.

At the age of 32, I chose to leave the high tech world in favor of working on behalf of the planet. I have taught 10 years of environmental education in California, have run an organic farm for 11 years in Lane County that is stressed due to climate change, and now I am committed to creating climate solutions with 350 Eugene. I urgently want Oregon to lead on creating a Cap & Invest action plan. While Oregon is a smaller state, it can have a very large impact on this country taking action nationwide. Please pass this bill this year without allowing industry to water it down.

Failure is not an option!

Linda Perrine
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