

Chair Dembrow, Chair Power,
Co-Chair Bentz, Co-Chair Brock-Smith
and members of the Committee

My name is Pamela Fitzpatrick.

I write in favor of HB2020. I've followed the development of this bill since 2015. It's clearly not a "rush job".

First, as in earlier bills, please direct a specific "at least percentage" of the Climate Investment Fund to impacted communities. As you know these communities are generally the ones hit hardest by the chaos of climate change and generally are not part of the global 10% who produce 50% of global emissions (Tyndall Center for Environmental Research). Directing funds to impacted communities is an excellent way to both reduce emissions and significantly increase local economic development.

Second, I'm pleased to report that just last month, with EWEB's help, I switched from a gas furnace to an electric heat pump. My gas furnace was efficient and its brains had just last year been updated, but it was time to withdraw from my gas addiction.

Thank you for taking the bold step of limiting free allowances to natural gas utilities. Gas is not a clean energy source.

This summer Colorado State University released results from a 5-year study of 700 facilities in the natural gas supply chain. They found that methane leakage was 60% higher than what had been estimated by EPA. This increased level of leakage meant that the level of emissions from utilizing natural gas was dangerously close to that of utilizing coal. Let's focus on helping people transition off natural gas.

Thank you for being the champions our world needs today.