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I am writing in support of HB2020. This bill may not contain all the things that supporters want, but it is an essential step toward reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions in Oregon, which will give our state authority and credibility in the existential quest to take action to reduce and mitigate all the awful things that will happen if that quest fails. I know that those risks have been well identified by many others who have given testimony, as well as many statistics and authentic information given to contest opponent opposition to this bill related to increase in prices for gas and electricity, economic doom, reduced job growth, climate change denial, pitting northern Oregon vs. Southern, Oregon, the list goes on. The misinformation and fear mongering come from polluters and climate deniers or the uninformed. The target is people who likewise are not informed, have not read the bill, or whose ideology rests on the premise that there is no global warming and even if there is, human activity is not to blame.

Thus I am choosing not to repeat the facts and statistics but to weave together a moral imperative for passage of HB2020:

- Worldwide research by esteemed scientists shared in peer reviewed publications and conclusions drawn at the highest level of worldwide committees all affirm that global warming is happening now, release of GHG emissions are the major factor, and climate chaos will ensue if we don't act decisively within the next decade to greatly reduce these emissions through adaptation and mitigation.
- Fossil fuel corporations and other polluters do not have the right nor should they have the power to sabotage private sector, governmental, and individual efforts to address this crisis. They utilize propaganda, misinformation, and fear mongering to achieve their goal of maintaining the status quo and their bottom line no matter what the consequences.
- The gravity of the situation and the fact that we are already living with the impacts of climate change demand action now. We can no longer turn a blind eye and Oregon can provide leadership to lead other states to enact this sort of legislation
- Just as polluters, no matter how large and how rich, do not have the right to destroy the planet and create a climate situation that will result in the dislocation and ultimately the death of millions, we the people, and the officials we elect, do not have the right to sit idly by and watch as they continue to spew climate changing GHG into our atmosphere, directly causing environmental degradation and predicted extinction of many species, both animal and plant.
- Wildlife, trees, ecosystems that support our very existence cannot speak for themselves, so people must. Elected officials must, leaders at every level must.
- Please do not be convinced by big lobby money and a manipulative campaign by polluters, climate change deniers, and some business organizations that this bill is bad for Oregon or that it is politically untenable. This is a good path for Oregon to take so let's start the journey.
- I ask that you will do all within your power to see that HB2020 gets a fair hearing before the Legislature.

Thank you for your service.