

February 25, 2019

Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

Re: HB 2010 Testimony for Public Hearing on March 2 (Bend)

Dear Co-chairs Dembrow and Powers, and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

My name is Caroline Skidmore, I am a 17 year resident of Bend, a small business owner, and most importantly a concerned parent. I am writing in support of the Clean Energy Jobs Bill (HB 2020).

It was my initial intention to attend the Bend hearing on March 2 at Central Oregon Community College. I had planned on attending for the future of my children. I will now have to miss the hearing in order to be present for my son's regional championship wrestling tournament. You see, like many of us, my children come first and that is precisely why I urge you to pass HR 2020. Given that you are members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction, I am confident that you are well informed on the urgency of climate change. The details of the recent IPCC report make it clear that if we do not act boldly and swiftly on climate change in the next 11 years, the repercussions will be detrimental for our children and future generations. By implementing HB 2020, Oregon has the opportunity to lead by significantly reducing emissions, while at the same time creating new jobs and providing opportunities for businesses to grow across the state. The Clean Energy Jobs Bill will transition Oregon to clean energy which will ultimately lower costs for businesses and families.

Individuals, like myself, who have carefully studied the Clean Energy Jobs Bill will provide you with the well researched facts on how HB 2020 will be a benefit to our climate AND economy. You will be provided with well documented data on the reduction of emissions and economic improvements in the many U.S states and Canadian provinces that have already passed cap and invest legislation. You will see the clear evidence that cap and invest is a driver of economic innovation, protects clean, air and water and includes protections for low income families. When it comes down to a vote on HB 2020, it is my hope as an Oregonian, and as a parent, that you will prioritize fact based policy and support the Clean Energy Jobs Bill. This bill is critical for Oregon not only because of what it will do for people now, through job creation and lower clean energy costs, but also because it is the right thing to do for our children and the future of our shared planet.

It is my hope that this committee, my Representative Cheri Helt, and my Senator Tim Knopp, will take bold and swift action to drastically reduce carbon emissions in our state by passing the Clean Energy Jobs Bill. I urge you think about what repercussions will ensue should the Clean Energy Jobs Bill fail to become policy. As a parent, business owner, and concerned citizen it is my moral obligation to support the Clean Energy Jobs Bill; a critical piece of legislation that will drastically reduce carbon emissions while creating jobs, sparking industry innovation, and protecting low income families. This bill is for the planet we leave our children. I urge Oregon lawmakers to be on the right side of history and pass the Clean Energy Jobs Bill.

Respectfully Yours,

Caroline Skidmore

