



Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District

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February 25, 2019

Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

RE: HB 2020

Dear Committee,

The Tillamook County Soil and Water Conservation District opposes HB 2020, as drafted. The bill will levy unnecessary costs on Oregon's farmers, ranchers, and rural communities and fails to address significant work that is currently being performed to reduce carbon emissions and increase uptake.

The Best Management Practices being currently implemented are:

- **Low head manure application** -Helps to reduce odor and applies nutrients to the soils
- **Draghose manure application**- Ammonia nitrogen is retained by immediate incorporation of the manure.
- **Manure injection systems**- ammonia losses due to volatility are reduced significantly, as is the negative environmental impact from runoff.
- **Manure Bedding Dryers**-able to reuse bedding and reduce tractor times on the fields for spreading.
- **NO-Till-Drill**-reduces tillage so carbon is retained (plowing is still necessary overtime but can be reduced for several years)
- **Planting of cover crops**-manage soil erosion
- **Tree shrub establishment**-carbon sequestration, Tillamook County farmers and rural residents have planted nearly 1.3 million trees and shrubs.
- **Conservation Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs)** are conservation plans unique to livestock operations. These plans document practices and strategies adopted by livestock operations to address natural resource concerns related to soil erosion, livestock manure and disposal of organic by-products.

The practices above optimize field efficiency and erosion control which means completing a particular field operation while wasting the least amount of time, fuel, and farm resources.

The Agriculture community is implementing the Best Management Practices on a voluntary basis to alleviate negative environmental impacts, but it takes time and money, and now is not the time to increase taxes, fines or mandates.

TILLAMOOK COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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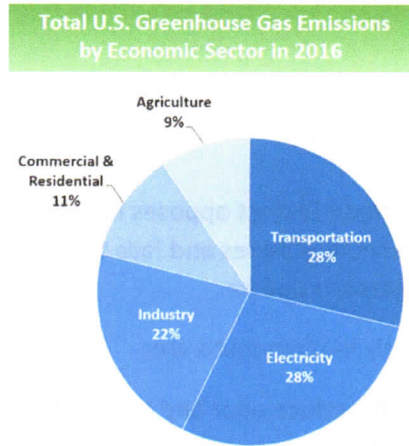
BRYAN MEASOR, ZONE 4, WILLIAM HAGERTY, ZONE 5, LARRY ZWEIFEL, DIRECTOR AT-LARGE, RUDY FENK, DIRECTOR AT-LARGE



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According to the EPA ¹Agriculture (9 percent of 2016 greenhouse gas emissions) – Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture come from livestock such as cows, agricultural soils, and rice production.



Tillamook County has cows and we are managing the manure and soils by applying the nutrients at an agronomic rate, and we don't have rice.

The District believes that our emissions and uptake are close to equal, considering all the Best Managed Practices we are implementing.

Please reconsider HB 2020 in its current form and give credit to the agriculture community for everything it is doing to reduce emissions and improve carbon uptake.

Thank You,

Rudy Fenk Board Chair

¹ <https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/sources-greenhouse-gas-emissions>

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