

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

My name is Wendy Lawton and I live in Fairview, OR. I write to ask that you please pass HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill. The future safety, security, health, and prosperity of Oregonians depends on how we handle global warming today.

The Clean Energy Jobs bill will put Oregon out front as a leader in reducing and reversing global warming by guaranteeing that we will reduce pollution – while creating thousands of living wage jobs. This connection between a healthy environment and a strong economy has played out in California, which has a cap-and-invest law in place and has seen its economy grow as a result. We can do good, and do well, at the same time.

This issue is very dear to me. In fall 2017, my 16-year-old daughter and I had to evacuate our home here in Fairview because of the noxious smoke from the wildfires raging in the Columbia River Gorge. This fall, due to climate-induced drought, the Sandy River dried to the size of a creek, making it difficult for native salmon to spawn around Oxbow Regional Park. The menacing effects of climate change are, literally, at my door. I want my daughter to continue to enjoy the natural splendor of our state, and her grandchildren, too. You can make that possible by passing the strongest Clean Energy Jobs bill you can. Me, and tens of thousands of Oregonians, will be behind you.

Thank you,

Wendy Lawton
780 West Pond Drive
Fairview, OR 97024