

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

Hello, my name is Emily Gibson, and I am an educator from Bend, Or. I am writing in support of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

I believe scientists, and that addressing climate change is the most important task for all of us. We have very little time to stop the effects of carbon in the atmosphere, like a runaway train, because as it gets more momentum, it gets more and more difficult to stop.

The Clean Energy Job bill offers bold solutions, which will boost the economy with jobs and lower costs of energy across the board. The funds from the cap will fuel the innovations in clean energy that are necessary to transition away from carbon-producing energy streams. One of the most important factors, for me, is that the cap-and-invest system has been implemented, successfully, in other states. We aren't inventing a new wheel, we are following a strategy that has helped at least 10 other states begin to revitalize their economy and job prospects.

Why am I concerned about climate change? As I mentioned in my first sentence, I work with children every day. I worry about their chance to enjoy their lives, fulfilling their dreams for work, family, travel, and experiences in the same way that I have. Through no fault of their own, they are inheriting a climate disaster, but by the time my students are old enough to vote, it will be too late to turn it around. So when I experience the extreme weather events that are becoming more normal in Oregon and around the country, I am motivated to work as hard as I can to make a change.

Thank you for your time,
Emily Gibson

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