

February 28, 2019

Oregon State Legislature Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction Oregon State Capitol Salem, Oregon

RE: HB 2020

VIA Email: jccr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

I'm writing today to add my name to the list of those who oppose HB 2020, and to solicit your NO vote on this bill It will have significant adverse impacts on our farm.

Farming is never easy. Nevertheless, it's what I've spent my career doing, and I take great pride in operating a farm business that produces food and other commodities responsibly, while providing stable employment opportunities, and economic benefits to my 2 dozen landlords, and the vendors with which we do business. HB 2020 will substantially increase the costs of production on my farm. This is particularly troublesome when one realizes this is a cost that will NOT apply to my competing farmers in neighboring states. Farming occurs locally, but our production is sold globally. We must price competitively with similar production in other states, and around the world.

It takes energy to produce food and fiber. Fuel costs and natural gas price increases will be passed down to users like me. Our family will be saddled with thousands of dollars of additional tax burden each year!

HB 2020 would make it harder to farm in Oregon and discourage young and beginning farmers. I'm the third generation to operate our farm, now working with a fourth generation anxious to take over and make their mark. I wonder if there will be a fifth generation.

Farms, and the rural communities where they do business will be hit disproportionately hard by cap-and-trade. I ask you to help families, like mine, by working to minimize the impact of cap-and-trade policy on rural communities and businesses. HB 2020 could end up costing our family thousands of dollars in new taxes each year without benefiting.

our farm.

I ask you to vote 'NO' on HB 2020. Give Oregon's farmers a chance to continue to succeed; agriculture is too important to Oregon to beat it up in this way!

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mark Dickman

Copies:

Senator Fred Girod, Oregon State Senate Representative Rick Lewis, Oregon State House of Representatives

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