

Co-chairs and members of the committee. My name is Troy McCrae and I am employed by Murphy Company, a wood products manufacturer.

HB 2020's carbon tax is not the answer to Oregon's reduction of greenhouse gases. Climate change is real and we absolutely need to make steps toward reducing greenhouse gasses. However, there are far better solutions.

HB2020 is a thinly veiled fundraising campaign hidden behind the mask of climate change. If we truly want to reduce greenhouse gasses, there are more successful models such as Energy Trust incentives. Incentivizing businesses to reduce carbon emissions will create REAL change, not just putting money into the state's bank account at the detriment of its citizens.

The impact of increased utility rates are very real at our facilities. Our mills use natural gas for veneer and plywood production. Recently Natural Gas prices rose to a point where we were forced to cease production at our facility here in Eugene. This put 285 people out of work!

NW Natural estimates the gas rate for businesses would go up by 13 percent in 2021 and up to 60 percent by 2040.

With the expected increase in natural gas costs from this bill, Murphy Company will find it very difficult to be cost-competitive with companies from other states. Murphy Company is deeply vested in the state of Oregon. But if we can't compete, we will be forced to move operations, or simply close our plants. Again, putting the citizens of Oregon out of work.

All our facilities currently meet or exceed all emissions standards. Let's reward companies for making improvements to reduce emissions and create REAL change. Let's not penalize companies for making tangible products and creating jobs!

The citizens of Oregon deserve better.

Thank you.