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

My name is Gordon Molitor. I live in Southwest Portland and am writing in support of HB 2020 the Clean Energy Jobs (CEJ) bill, because the faster that we transition to a low-carbon economy, the less expensive it will be to make these necessary adjustments to climate change.

Before I do that, however, I want to thank each of you for your time and effort in reviewing the CEJ, over the past several years and, particularly, over these past few very intense months!

Climate change is already costing Oregonians millions of dollars each year, in increased forest fires, decreased snow packs, and increased pest infestations and sickness. The sooner the world takes action, the less these impacts will be and the less expensive will be the necessary transition.

In fact, taking action will benefit our economy. The same policies that can address climate change can benefit Oregon's economy and create local, high-paying jobs. An <u>independent economic study</u> completed in 2019 shows HB2020 will benefit our economy. Another study shows that <u>California's GDP (both overall and per capita)</u> <u>has risen</u> while green house gas emission have fallen, under their carbon cap and trade program.

Oregon's carbon reductions will not be significant on a world scale, but not taking action on climate change is risky and expensive. Everyone must do their part, before asking others to take action. It is again time for Oregon to show its leadership on environmental issues.

I urge you to to pass the strongest CEJ possible.

Regards,

Gordy Molitor 619 SW Hume St Portland, OR 97219