

## Comments on Clean Energy Jobs Bill HB 2020

The State of Oregon is to be commended first for adopting necessary and suitable goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions over the past several years. And commended as well for creating the Oregon Global Warming Commission to regularly monitor and report to the legislature regarding progress toward those goals, focusing attention on further legislative action meant to achieve them.

The Commission's latest report to the legislature, issue in the Fall of 2018, made it clear that the state is falling seriously behind in achieving its goals for reducing GHG emissions. And the report specifically points to the need for a cap and trade type program to put our state back on track for success.

I am reminded of the old adage about trees. The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The second best time is now.

So it is with adopting the Clean Energy Jobs Bill (HB 2020) to address climate change. This bill is long overdue, but the second best time is now.

The fossil fuel industry has succeeded for many years in delaying the inevitable transition to clean energy. No more.

The 2019 legislative session has the opportunity to make this action count. Years of work have gone into crafting this bill, resulting in commendable provisions balancing the needs and wishes of virtually all interested parties in the state.

The bill's phase in over several years should serve to mitigate problems faced by all constituents, giving us an ample opportunity to adapt, as it encourages businesses to develop viable alternatives and all of us to make full use of them.

Your job now, as I see it, is to adopt the strongest bill possible. To that end, I offer the following:

1. Above all else, hold true to the goals for GHG emission reductions adopted by the state.
2. Do not allow the proposed multi-year phase in period to be lengthened or subverted in any way.
3. Forcefully resist any permanent exemptions.
4. Limit any exemptions to only the most essential, and assure even those are rapidly phased out.
5. Allow for a limited portion of the investment/spending pool to be used to mitigate constituent cost issues, but, again, allow only the most essential and assure they are rapidly phased out.

We must not allow this opportunity to slip away through delays or exemptions.

Thank you.