

TO: The Joint committee on Carbon Reduction
RE: HB 2020
FROM: Dick Linford
1329 NW Constellation Drive
Bend OR 97703

Dear Committee

I am writing to strongly urge that you pass HB 202 as soon as possible.

I am a retired businessman. My business was running wilderness river trips. I have witnessed climate change firsthand. The thing is that climate change is slow, subtle and hard to distinguish from normal weather variances, that we may not see it until we look back.

In my case, I ran rafting trip on Idaho's Middle fork of the Salmon for 40 years. When I started, we didn't book trips for most of June. The water was too high from the snowmelt runoff, and the weather was too cold. Now, June is the best time to go. The runoff occurs in May and June temperatures are fine.

Furthermore, the rapids on the Middle Fork have changed more in the past five years than in the previous 50 years. This is because the ever-increasing wildfire fires have destroyed so vegetation, resulting in landslides that place new boulders in the river

For the past 15 or so years I have run the Rogue River the last week in April. For most of that time we could expect rain every day. Over the last five years we haven't had any rain.

It is also impossible not to notice that the West is burning up. It used to be that wildfires came in August and September, and were doused by the precipitation that came in October and November. Now they start in June and carry into November because the precipitation comes later. And these new fires are torching towns and cities.

A case in point is the Camp Fire, that wiped out Paradise, California. It started on November 8, 2018, killed 85 people, destroyed 18,223 structures and cause \$16.5 billion in damage. For me this was personal. My daughter had to flee her place, barely having time to release her horses. Her house was eventually saved, but my granddaughter's house burned, wiping out all her possessions.

Bend has been identified as a city that is highly vulnerable to a similar fire.

I predict that some climate change denier will point to the recent snow and cold weather as a evidence that it isn't happening. Wild weather swings are part of global warming. And while it may be cold here, the temperature in Fairbanks, Alaska, is 50 degrees warmer than normal right now.

I predict that passing HB 2020 will stimulate Oregon's economy. The people who oppose the bill are denying both science and economics.

They are on the wrong side of history.

Every delay in curbing carbon emissions will cost us, both in the looming destruction and the increased cost that it will take later. Not passing HB 2020 now is like noticing that the red oil light comes on in your car, but not stopping to buy oil because you don't want to spend the money. Good luck with that.