

Thank you Co-chairs Dembrow and Power, and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction for meeting with us.

My name is Kenney Hersch, I am a student at OSU-Cascades studying Computer Science and Sustainability as a double major. I am grateful to be part of the legislative process, testifying in support of House Bill 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

As a data driven student, it's clear to see the benefits and effects of the House Bill 2020 based on the independent economic study presented to the legislature in 2019. Not only would House Bill 2020 will add to household incomes across all tax brackets by creating thousands of good-paying jobs and transition to cleaner energy will lower costs for people and businesses.

Fortunately in a time of prevalent misinformation, we can rely on quantifiable and visually objective successes of 10 states' and their proven metrics on cap-and-invest programs. After years of experience, all of them have: growing economies, falling emissions, stable energy prices, and thousands of jobs created. I implore we not waste the opportunity costs any longer and be the eleventh state to act.

In 2017, Oregon lost \$51.5 million in lost visitor spending, I cannot imagine not only the direct costs, but the externalities of medical costs as well as the lowered quality of life for Oregonians. A lack of decision will prolong the inevitable to our most vulnerable community members, children, elders, communities of color, low income and rural Oregonians.

Professionals and experts in climate change have quantified the dwindling number of years left to revert the impacts of carbon equivalent emissions. The Clean Energy Jobs is a policy that puts Oregon in the right direction to address not only environmental concerns, but provides sensible economic incentives. I'm reminded of a Chinese proverb as the best time to act has already passed, but the second best time is now.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

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