

February 23, 2019
415 Sunrise Av.
Medford, OR 97504

Senator Michael Dembrow, Co-Chair
Representative Karin Power, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

I write to vigorously express my opposition to House Bill 2020. There is an almost insurmountable homeless problem in Oregon now, and you're going to put more of us out on the street with this egregious plan. Sound extreme to you? Well, I'm now retired, and I see my budget turned upside-down, and I know I won't be alone! I pray I won't see too many more folks made homeless.

AAA predicts an increase of \$.16 per gallon of gas I calculated the extra cost on my fill-up three days ago: the extra \$ would cover my hearing-aid batteries for a month.

I already wear a coat in my house all winter and keep my heat setting for 63-67 degrees and my Avista bill is still \$90-plus for the winter months. If I had to use electric heat, I would expect that cost to double. And your penalties on natural gas may double my expense anyway. I don't use my AC in summer until the house reaches 85 degrees.

I foresee everything I buy to go up in cost. At every level, those who produce and/or deliver fuel, clothing, groceries, meds, tools—everything—will pass along their extra expense. Workers will want higher wages to cover their families' expense, and those costs will go up. The cycle won't stop.

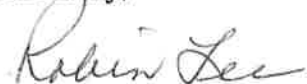
My most profound objection is that you're starting at the wrong end of climate solutions! **GIVE US CLEANER AIR BY MANAGING THE FORESTS AND REDUCING THE FIRES.** Then, take some measurements and see whether more needs doing. We're already at the third lowest pollution in the nation by reports I have read. And with California at contributing 30% all by itself, whatever little improvement you think charging pollution penalties will accomplish seems like a smoke screen (oops! Pun not intended, but I'll leave it).

Also, the plan to create another unelected level of policy-makers is just wrong. A carbon policy agency that would make Administrative Rules and answer only to the governor sounds like tyranny to me. We the people need a voice in this. We should see who's getting the money HB 2020 would raise. What is your plan? How will it benefit Oregon families?

Please reject House Bill 2020. It really won't give us solutions. It will weaken our economy, and lower our standard of living, impoverish all but the wealthy, and probably only make the wealthy wealthier.

Thank you for your time touring and for listening.

Sincerely,



Robin Lee