

My name is Erica Loftin and I live in Bend, Oregon. I hold a degree in Environmental and Ecological Conservation from the University of Virginia and was a ranger at Tumalo State Park before moving into the field of wildlife research. I'm here to speak to why I think it is important to pass House Bill 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs Bill.

"An independent economic study presented to the legislature in 2019 shows HB 2020 will benefit our economy. It will add to household income across all tax brackets with the most going to low-income households because it will create thousands of good-paying jobs and the transition to cleaner energy will lower costs for people and businesses."

HB2020 will effect change, and with change always comes growing pains. There will be a shift in job skills needs from the fossil fuels field to clean energy. However, the Bill accounts for this and plans for investments that go towards growing opportunities for low-income and rural communities, communities of color and for training workers in Oregon. I believe in the state's ability to make this a smooth and just transition.

I'm here today because I think it's time to hold ourselves accountable for the liberties we've taken with the natural world. We've created an unsustainable expectation of luxury that is robbing us of actual treasures - like clean air, clean water, food stability and wild space. You cannot always take and never give and not expect things to come crashing down around you. We've been taking for generations and now, my generation must and is willing to give. William Stozenburg is the author of *Where the Wild Things Were* and he wrote something that has stuck with me for years. He said "The world as first seen by the child becomes his lifelong standard of excellence, mindless of the fact he is admiring the ruins of his parents". I would like to leave the next generations with hope instead of ruin, and the generation after that with growth instead of decay. Thank you for your time.