

Dear Co-chairs Dembrow and Power, and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

My name is Carmen Hammersmith and I live on the North Coast of Oregon. It is very, very important to me that you pass HB 2020. Living on this beautiful coast is so wonderful, but now, right now the clear evidence of climate change is very apparent here: loss of salmon habitat, decrease in shore and near beach birds due to lack of small fish runs, and of course, the beach erosion taking place all along the coast.

Also, this area is becoming unaffordable for working families. Clean energy jobs will benefit our economy, both in the numbers of good paying jobs available to low-income households, and in the corollary of more sustainable fishing and forest management .

The best part of the bill is that it guarantees 2.2 million metric tons of pollution reduction every two years- Oregonians will be healthier (reducing healthcare costs), our drinking water will be improved, air quality, and the much needed health of the lower Columbia River all enhanced by this reduction. The cap and trade portion of the bill will definitely give incentive to polluting industries to reduce their toxic output, while the money paid into the HB2020 fund will be reinvested in clean energy solutions. Caring for each other and for our beautiful lands is the Oregon Way!

We already have excellent examples of cap-and-invest programs in 10 other states. We can gain so much from the knowledge and success of these states that gone before us in this venture. Let us join with them.

Please, let us put HB2020 on the books, and get working!

Sincerely,  
Carmen Hammersmith, resident of Clatsop Co.