

Co-chairs Dembrow and Power, and members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,  
My name is Jaylen and I live in Portland. I am writing to you to express my support of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill. It is important that strong legislative action be taken to try to stem the disastrous effects of climate change. There are many reasons to support this bill aside from helping address climate change. Economically, HB 2020 will benefit Oregon. 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. In 2017, wildfires caused Oregon to lose \$51.5 million in visitor spending and the US Forest Service is now spending more than half its budget on fighting fires.

Last year a new report came out that shows we have 11 years to reduce emissions before our climate fate is sealed. As a long-time Oregonian I have witnessed the many effects of climate change already taking hold in our beautiful state - the worst of which is the drought and wildfires that plague a growing area of the state each summer.

I have two teen boys who are acutely aware of what is happening to the natural world and they struggle to remain optimistic about their future. My children (all children!) should not have to grow up in an Oregon of diminished beauty or in fear of climate change. They deserve leaders who will be bold and courageous in their efforts to address this crisis.

Please do everything in your power to protect their future. Passing the Clean Energy Jobs bill this year is an important first step.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Jaylen Schmitt