

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

My name is Angela Gusa and I live in Northeast Portland.

In February I came as a member of Renew Oregon for lobby day to urge my representatives to pass the strongest possible version of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill. I understand that many people have come to hearings to voice their opinions that climate change is not real and therefore we need not pass this bill. My daughter received a Phd for her research on climate science, spending summers in Greenland studying a new reservoir of liquid water below the surface of the ice. Although she loved her project, at times it becomes very discouraging as she wonders what to think of a country where the consensus of scientists is overwhelming that climate change is real and that it is caused by human activity, yet people willfully ignore this and refuse to address the crisis. Because they are unwilling to educate themselves, they are endangering the world that God created and abdicating the responsibility we have as stewards of God's earth. My daughter understands what we are facing and observes what we are doing on the Federal level and is hesitant to bring children into the world.

I understand the fear that many have regarding the economic impacts of the bill. I also understand that there have been independent studies completed and presented to the legislature showing that HB 2020 will be a benefit to our economy. I ask that investment of the funds generated through HB 2020 be used to assist not only communities impacted by climate change, but also communities who will need assistance in the event that they are adversely impacted by implementation of the bill. I also ask you to consider the costs to our state if we do nothing. All across the state we are already feeling the effects of climate change.

I urge you to make Oregon a leader on addressing climate change by passing the strongest possible legislation that brings hope for the future of not only our state, but others that will follow suit. Please be bold and brave! We are with you.

Sincerely,

Angela Gusa