

Dear Co-Chairs Dembrow and Power and Members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction,

My name is Jeff Hammarlund. I have recently retired as a member of the faculty at Portland State University, where I taught graduate courses on energy, environmental and natural resource policy for 25 years. I continue to consult part time, most notably (and with the endorsement of our State Department) with the Chinese government and universities. Since climate change is a global concern, I could not help but jump at the opportunity to do what I could to help China and other committed countries move away from coal and other fossil fuels and toward energy efficiency and renewable energy options.

China has many problems and I am certainly not a fan of its authoritarian form of government. But I cannot help but admire its decision to become the global leader in clean energy. According to the International Energy and other respected sources, China:

- Contributed an amazing 45% of the total global investment in renewable energy last year, up from 35% the previous year.
- Can claim one-third of the world's wind power and a quarter of its solar capacity.
- Is the home of 5 of the world's largest wind manufacturers.
- Has 6 of the world's 10 auto manufacturers committed to electrification and sells more electric vehicles than the rest of the world combined.
- A year ago gave the go-ahead for what is expected to be the world's largest carbon trading scheme.

China overtook the US in total global investment in renewables in 2009. While the US is still number 2 in renewable energy investment, our investment declined by 6% last year and we are at risk of falling behind other countries. Meanwhile, to my dismay, China has replaced the US as world's leading champion of and investor in economic development strategies that promote clean energy and low carbon future in many developing countries.

Of course, a small state like Oregon alone can do little change global trends, but we do have a long and impressive history of being national and world leaders in clean energy. I encourage you to report out and pass a strong HB 2020 Oregonians can still point to with pride a decade or more from now, and that can serve as a model for others to emulate.

Oregon has the opportunity to position itself as one of the clean energy economic engines of the 21st century, while creating thousands of family-wage jobs. As you know, many millions of dollars of in revenue created through this legislation will be reinvested in clean energy solutions, building affordable housing near public transit, and investing in state-of-the-art low carbon transportation solutions. One of the most impressive features of this legislation is its commitment to ensure that all Oregonians will benefit from its implementation, not just those of us who happen to live in Portland and find ourselves in the middle class. Investments can and should give special attention to helping low-income and rural communities, communities of color, Native American tribes, and people who might have held jobs associated with high greenhouse gas-emitting industries yet are willing to transition to more sustainable and higher-paying jobs associated with the growing clean energy economy.

I have gone on-line to read a significant sample of the public testimony. I am impressed by the validity and wisdom of much of what I have read. I was also saddened by some of the less accurate testimony from people who were informed by their employers and talk-show hosts that their jobs might disappear if this legislation passes or told similar stories. I appreciate that the misinformation and dire predictions these good people received from their sources was primarily a tactic to attempt to shaken the confidence of legislators so you would be more receptive to amendments that would significantly weaken the effectiveness of the bill. I used to serve on the staff of the US Senate and Natural Resources and watched this tactic play out many times as a part of the legislative process. It is hard for any legislator to hear his or her constituents express fear that they are at risk of "losing their jobs" as a result of legislation responding to a misguided "climate hoax."

No doubt, you will see reasonable and appropriate amendments that actually enhance the effectiveness of the bill. You will also see amendments that offer more exemptions for certain industries and sectors at the expense of the public good, the environment, and future generations. I wish you the best in finding the wisdom to tell the difference

Thank you,

Jeff Hammarlund, Retired Professor

(And a proud father and grandfather)