Dear Committee Members:

As a resident of Ashland, I am writing to express my concerns about HB 2020, and urge you to stop this bill. Research has shown that this bill would have a negligible effect on any climate change and would negatively impact the economy of Oregon, especially rural areas like Jackson County.

Oregon is already a leader in alternative energy, and we should continue to move in that direction incrementally, not in this drastic, ill-conceived emotional way.

Carbon is a benign, natural element that is essential to life on this planet, not some kind of pollution. Why not focus on more serious environmental problems like the proliferation of untested chemicals, genetic engineering and EMF producing technologies? The answer is that Cap and Trade is a big bureaucratic tax scheme to generate revenue, disguised as a Save-the-World-Before-It's-Too-Late necessity. It will not help the environment but will further impoverish Oregon's people.

Please don't do it!

Thank you for your time and consideration,

John Barth Ashland, Oregon