

6 March 2019

Leon Baker
P.O. Box 65
Silver Lake, or 97638

Sean Murphy
900 Court St. NE Room 347
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Sir;

Please have these comments inserted into the public comments records for the legislative combined committee regarding SB 2020. I attended the public meeting held in Bend, OR., on 2 March, 2019.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leon Baker". The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Leon Baker
Jn 3:30

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P.O. Box 65
Silver Lake, Or 97638

5 March 2019

Oregon State legislature combined panel for SB-2020
Public comments

Thank you for placing these comments into the official record of comments regarding this Bill. I appreciate the extended comment period.

During the public hearing of SB 2020, it was not clearly defined what issue we were commenting on. I assume we are talking about man caused global warming, and not climate change in general.

I was impressed with the fear and hysteria expressed. Much of this seemed to come from an article in the New York Times, and the New Yorker, stating that there was only 11 more years to combat global warming before we all go extinct. The New York Times and New Yorker are not known for reliable sources of quality information. I felt very sorry for some of the female students from Bend HS, who cried feeling they would never see adulthood. Mr. Gore said in the 1990's, there were only 10 more years until we all would be extinct. We obviously are still here. Climates of hysteria, anxiety and fear are not good atmospheres to legislate or construct policy.

In my testimony (one minute) before the committee, I urged them to listen to the opposition, who had good information to give. I'm not referring to myself. Rather to a large number of climate scientists who see benefits to a warmer earth. Some say we can use up to 15% more CO2 than is now present in our atmosphere. (1) A cooler earth means less food production bringing starvation and disease for folks. Some scientists say we are still recovering from the ice age of the 1850's. Some scientists state we are close to the beginning of a 'mini ice age' right now. Some scientists say there has been little global warming over the last 150 years, perhaps a little over 1 (one) degree.

Over the years I have attended many conferences on the environment. Older men than I would ask, 'What is the goal?'. 'When do we know when we have accomplished our Purpose?'. There was not a single answer. The same applies now. Without clearly define goals, there is no way of measuring success. How much CO2 needs to be reduced so we're safe, having achieved our goals? Again, no answer. The biggest source of atmospheric CO2 comes from volcanoes. Can anyone control them? America has done a great job of reducing CO2, reducing our emissions about 18% over the last 30 years. Modern, rich countries are the only ones who can do this, and we are leaders. Poorer countries cannot afford measures. The biggest polluters are communist China and India.

I again suggest looking at agriculture for answers. One (1) acre of good grass land sequesters more CO2 than one (1) acre of rain forest. If grass lands increased by one (1) % in America, we would sequester all the CO2 produced since the industrial revolution. Should we pass over the answer to enact something that punishes the very endeavour that has the answer? We should invest and support agriculture that is already providing provable answers.

Some expressed concern over forest fires and the smoke. Fires are not the result of global warming. In 1984 while working for the Forest Service, a young lady came, not sharing much of what she was doing. She was inventing Spotted Owls, who became the lightning rod of the ESA, proclaiming they were close to extinction, only living old growth Ponderosa forests. With this incomplete information, the timber industry in Oregon became extinct. Later it was shown the Spotted Owl lives anywhere and everywhere, and its greatest enemy is the Great Horned owl. If smoke from forest fires burn your eyes, then blame the radical environmentalists, who now try to stop good forest management practices such as logging, salvage logging and forest thinning. Fire is only a tool, which if properly managed, is good for forest health. The Indians used to set fire to the forest when they left in the fall.

(1) Dr. Craig Idso, Center for the Study of Carbon Dioxide and Global Change, Via Tom Harris, International Climate Science Coalition. May 21, 2018

Oregon State legislature combined panel for SB 2020
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Poor forest health should not be laid upon the Forest Service, but on the environmental community, who try to stop every good forest management practice, with court actions that cost the Forest Service millions of dollars to defect itself from unnecessary litigation. monies that should be applied to forest health projects.

The Ag sector, along with burgeoning technology, can and will provide answers and solutions from the private sector. Whenever government, with good intentions, try to regulate and control, it stops creativity and seems to produce little or not positive results. We now have clean air in Oregon. Moss grows in trees indicating clean air. Our streams and rivers are clean and clear. You can drink from them.

Much was made of computer models and their predictive power. When the lead scientist for the IPCC was found to be 'cooking the books' to support a global warming agenda, by selecting data that supported global warming. It causes me to make that organization and its data highly suspicious. Additionally, of the many computer models constructed with their many assumptions bit in, some person must make the decision which 'model' will be used. If that person has a bias, no doubt that will influence the choice. By the way, the computer model selected for the Pacific Northwest in the fall of 2018, was for ^{winter} warmer and dryer! So much for that model.

The radical environmental groups are receiving massive amounts of dollars from wealthy folks who are working to implement the United Nations Agenda 21. Please look this document up and see what is being proposed. Follow the money. It leads to some people who have an avowed plan to destroy America, and institute a socialist government, completely opposite our Constitutional government.

Lastly. I implore you to look deeper than what hysteria, fear, misinformation and fake news is presenting. I strongly urge each member of your committee to read and search the archives of Range Magazine, and other scientific journals, for much documented information on this subject before voting on SB2020

Sincerely yours, with much respect for your position,


Leon Baker

Jn 3:30

PS: Thank you for your patience, enduring my poor typing skill, and grammatical errors.