

I'm Debra Vanasse Ferency, a concerned citizen from Warrenton, Oregon, writing in support of HB 2020, the Clean Energy Jobs bill.

HB 2020 will benefit our economy, adding to household income across all tax brackets by creating more than 50,000 good-paying jobs. The transition to cleaner energy will also lower costs for people and businesses. This major investment will reduce pollution and grow opportunities for low-income and rural communities like mine as wells as for tribes and communities of color.

This bill would put Oregonians to work by making clean power available to more people, improving energy efficiency in homes and businesses to save people money, building affordable housing near transit and investing in more transportation options. Since cap-and-trade, California has outperformed Texas and the rest of the U.S. in manufacturing output, growing in real terms by 26%. California's carbon price has also created good, union manufacturing jobs in the poorest parts of the state. Oregon should pursue these benefits as well.

I invest in my grandchildren's future through the Oregon College Savings Plan. On behalf of this upcoming generation, I ask the legislature to invest in their future by taking action against climate change. Scientists agree we have 11 years to drastically reduce emissions if we want to avoid the most catastrophic effects.

Corporate lobbyists with big money oppose HB 2020. I urge you to listen to the people, not the moneyed interests, and support this vital legislation.

Thank you.

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Wealth Woman: A True West "Best of the West" selection

Cold Spell: Grabs you from the opening line and never lets go ~ *Publishers Weekly*