



County of Malheur

251 'B' STREET WEST • VALE, OREGON 97918

April 25, 2019

VIA EMAIL ONLY

Speaker Tina Kotek: rep.tinakotek@oregonlegislature.gov

President Peter Courtney: sen.petercourtney@oregonlegislature.gov

jccr.exhibits@oregonlegislature.gov

Re: Opposition to HB 2020

Dear Speaker Kotek and Senate President Courtney:

I oppose HB 2020 and the financial damage it will bring to Malheur County. If HB 2020 passes, households, businesses and the public sector will have steeper bills and pay more to engage in nearly every activity.

The current version of HB 2020 will increase gasoline and diesel by as much as or more than \$.15 a gallon on January 1, 2021.

- This will cost Malheur County over \$16,000 a year in increased fuel prices to operate.
- A county employee estimates her gas bill will increase by \$180 a year to commute to work between Ontario and Vale and to regularly attend her children's sporting events within the Greater Eastern League of Baker, La Grande and Milton Freewater.
- One Malheur County farmer estimates an annual fuel increase of \$32,000.

Based on California's similar cap-and-trade laws, Oregon propane dealers project that HB 2020 will increase propane sales by \$.14 a gallon.

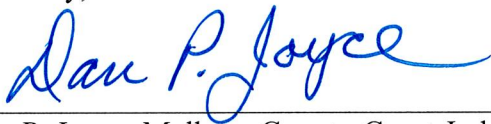
- An average home heated solely with propane in Vale will cost an additional \$112 year.

Oregon's low carbon goals will be damaged.

Today, the Shell gas station in Ontario displays a regular gas price at \$3.07 a gallon. The Shell gas station in Fruitland, Idaho, approximately 1 mile from the Oregon border, displays a regular gas price of \$2.97 a gallon. I have no doubt that with HB 2020 Malheur County residents and businesses will travel to Idaho to buy fuel. This will do little to reduce emissions in Oregon as Oregon's fuel is lower in carbon than that found in Idaho. My biggest fear, however, is that additional Malheur County companies will move to Idaho. Again, a company that emits in Idaho does meet global low carbon goals.

HB 2020 will cost Malheur County.

Sincerely,



Dan P. Joyce, Malheur County Court Judge

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