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I am against every part of cap-and-trade except the thought.

First off, and maybe your intent in raising our taxing to catastrophic levels is that the middle class can't afford them. This is not a policy designed to reduce carbon; it's a policy designed to raise money for government. You just raised taxed by BILLIONS by forcing a sales tax that we have repeatedly said no to and now you want to add TENS of BILLIONS More? Energy bills that go up 100-200%, we can't afford! Prices of goods go up because energy costs are added onto consumers and you're basically doubling our taxes! Lobs will be lost, businesses will go elsewhere, the middle class will leave because just like they are in California and New York.

The U.S. could cut its carbon dioxide emissions 100 percent and it would not make a difference in abating global warming.

Using the same climate sensitivity (the warming effect of a doubling of carbon dioxide emissions) as the U.N.'s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change assumes in its modeling, the world would be only 0.137 degree Celsius cooler by 2100. Even if we assumed every other industrialized country would be equally on board, this would merely avert warming by 0.278 degree Celsius by the turn of the century.

Oregon has had more success reducing its carbon footprint without cap and trade. Between 2000 and 2016, Oregon reduced its greenhouse gas emissions by 11.4 percent, and California reduced its emissions by only 8.1 percent[3]. Of that 8.1 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in California, only a small fraction can be attributed directly to their cap and trade system. Most of it has to do with the Great Recession, other laws directing utilities to acquire more renewable energy, the proliferation of residential solar panels, and more available hydropower.

If you want to do something to heal the planet work on getting China to stop polluting or buy land in the rain forest where it's being destroyed. Plant some trees. Trees get rid of CO2 better than any amount of taxes.

All the complexity and cost of cap and trade is really about raising money for politicians to spend on pet projects. It's not about reducing emissions. While workers and families in California have to live under this system, Oregon shouldn't follow them down this path.

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