

Feb. 8, 2020

Re: Testimony to the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Olsen, members of the Committee:

My name is Stephen Funk, I'm a photographer, and a concerned father of two young children from the Cedar Hills neighborhood in Portland. My family moved to Oregon 1976 when I was 6 years old.

Thank you for continuing to focus on the urgent issue of climate change.

There will be climate action in 2020, because it is our responsibility to leave our children and future generations with a healthy world.

We see daily reports of the effects of human-caused climate change: a 50% loss of bees in North America, the shells of Dungenous crabs dissolving in acidic ocean water, thousands of koala bears burned up in bushfires, massive glaciers melting faster than predicted. Then there's the disruption to human societies: wildfire, floods, famine, civil war, refugee crises, political instability and rise of authoritarians.

That's today's news, and it's child's play compared how bad it could get if we don't adequately address the climate crisis.

Clearly the cost of not doing enough about climate change is massive and incomprehensible.

The cost of doing something about climate change? A well-constructed piece of legislation would actually contribute to economic growth throughout our state. It would put us on track to massive reductions in emissions. And it would make Oregon a role model for the rest of the country.

The choice couldn't be simpler. Oregon must take responsibility for our share of the crisis. The right choice is to pass strong climate legislation this year.

Thank you.

Stephen Funk
2030 SW Roxbury Ave.
Portland, OR 97225