

My wife and I own Mt. Hebo Produce in Hebo, OR. We are very concerned about the added cost Cap and Trade will mean to our small business. We have all ready seen fees tacked on because of the gross receipt tax and addition sale tax tacked on to a new car or truck or trailer. We are looking at "death by a thousand taxes" Increases cost will not only affect us but many of our neighbors.

Even with the concessions to rural Oregon from the 2019 edition, when fully implemented it will have a far larger impact on rural communities than urban. It will have a far larger impact on low income families which are more prominent in rural communities. Oregon's 5 most populous counties have an average household income that is over \$25,000 more than lowest 15 rural counties. Higher fuel cost and energy cost hit low income and rural communities much harder. Many drive older less fuel efficient cars, must drive further for food supplies and services and have far less access to public transportation. Homes are often older and less energy efficient and many of our coldest regions of the state are rural areas. Disproportionately affecting one part of our population more. The efforts to shield rural Oregon by trying to buffer gas price increases and other incentives in rural areas for a few years does little. Our gas is all ready much more expensive and many of us do business in the urban areas and will fill up on cheaper gas when in the "Big City". We heat with propane since Natural gas is not available which has no protection. The businesses in the urban areas that we rely on for goods and services that are not available in our rural areas will pass on their higher expenses to us, further hurting rural individuals and businesses.

If the true goal is to reduce carbon, by admission of the authors of this bill, it will do little to reduce carbon.

Authors admit that it will hurt jobs, particularly in rural Oregon, this attacks the livelihood of communities and industries. Offering funding for retraining in industries that are of little or no interest or dramatically alters the lifestyle of affected individuals is wrong

There is NO consensus on climate change, there are just as many studies that disprove the doom and gloom as ones that predict the world is to end. Over the past 100 years there have been numerous times when the world was to end, we are still here and I strongly believe that the earth is a whole lot more resilient than many believe. Nearly all of us are concerned about man's impact on Mother Nature but decisions must be made on sound science not hype.

Even if Oregon was to reduce our carbon to ZERO the global affect would be inconsequential. Until policy puts pressure on China and India to make change anything Oregon goes will just hurt our economy.

Repeated studies have shown that sequestering carbon and working with industries to become more efficient will do far more to offset carbon than any Cap and Trade can do. We need to manage our forest, some might be set aside, but most need to be managed for maximum sequestration possible. This means harvesting and planting so that we have a constant supply of young actively growing forests. Policy need to be changed, especially in the management of our State and National forests. Vast acreages of dead, burned and diseased trees are left to stand. It should be obvious to all that these areas should be a priority to replant ASAP as a dead tree sequester no carbon. That alone could have a dramatic affect.

Agriculture must not be hamstrung by the crippling affect of Cap and Trade. We have a free market, entrepreneurship system that has led the world for more than a hundred years. It has encouraged efficiency in an industry that has dramatically reduced the amount of carbon per unit of production. In 1930 the average farmer fed himself and 4 others today he/she feeds over 160 and the number continues to grow. If we are going to provide food and fiber for a growing world population we must continue to allow Agriculture to continue to grow and develop more efficient production methods. By 2050 world Agricultural production needs to grow by 70%, the American farmer. If allowed to continue to be innovative and progressive, Oregon Agriculture will help lead this challenge while continuing to reduce the amount of carbon produced per pound of food and fiber produced. This is best accomplished through free market enterprise, not crippling regulations like Cap and Trade.

I keep hearing that this is an extreme emergency, we can not wait, every minute is critical, we have waited too long all ready.

The earth is estimated to be 4.5 billion years old and during that time climate has changed tens of thousands of times if not hundreds of thousands times, many of those changes have been far more dramatic that what is currently going on. Does anyone really think that waiting 9 months for the November elections will make difference?

Let the people decide, let the citizens of Oregon take ownership of this far reaching decision and let the majority rule! I believe this to be right thing to do in order to make a well informed and intelligent decision. It has become obvious with the large number of amendments that this bill was not ready to be presented and that there has not been a full and complete financial impact statement. Pushing this to the November elect would give time to correct and discuss these two very serious and very troubling flaws.

Leaving it in the hands of the legislators will only further divide our state. Please do what is right, let the people vote. I strongly believe this to be a fair and just compromise.

Sincerely

Max and Lynda Sherman

[maxsonsherman@gmail.com](mailto:maxsonsherman@gmail.com)

503.999.3202

Hebo, OR

Sent from my iPad