

I cannot express how much I oppose HB4167 and all of its clones being fed into the legislative hopper. I've concluded our legislators are either unaware of the level of opposition (by choice) or they are all tone deaf.

To date, multiple county commissioners have taken the unprecedented step of officially declaring their opposition to any Cap & Trade being imposed on them. They ostensibly represent over 700'000 voters.

I don't want to get too deep into the nuts and bolts of this measure but my opposition is based in the fact that it is expensive to administer, will expand the State authority add a \$20 million bureaucracy and most importantly, it won't change anything.

Oregon's contribution to Global Co2 is 0.14%, this is barely a rounding error in the CO2 calculations. If we could reduce our CO2 to zero, the world wouldn't even notice, other than the press releases from Kate Brown's office.

According to Catherine Mater, former chair of the Oregon Global Warming Commission Forest Carbon Task Force, Our forests sequester 30 Million Metric tons of CO2. Statewide we generate 64 Million Metric tons. Our trees are sucking up almost half of the CO2 we generate, Seems like a reasonable solution is to plant more trees. By the way, young growing trees sequester almost 40% more CO2 than old, end of life trees do. If we allowed more logging and planting in our forests, unlocked the burn areas and replanted them, we could almost solve your CO2 dilemma without increasing the cost of living to every Oregonian. Why not pass THIS bill? Why are average Oregonians required to pay for this measure, but the environmentalists lock up a major solution and get away with it?

Does this bill include the secrecy involving the carbon credit market? If so, are you really going to codify making money laundering easier since no one but a select few will know who bought, who sold and what each party paid. If this bill advances, this measure has no place in it.

There is no end to the reasons I could cite to try to convince you this is bad legislation and even worse law. However there is a real simple way for you to possibly get all you want. Simply refer it to the ballot and let those who are paying for it decide if they want to. I know the argument is that we don't understand the complexity of this bill and that may be true but:

Oregonians aren't as dumb as some of your condescending colleagues seem to think they are.

According to the Oregon Constitution, this is a taxing measure and MUST be referred to us.

I urge you to step back, take an objective look at what you want to impose on your constituents and kill this bill and all its siblings.

Gene Gradwohl
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