

I am Jean Gerson, a resident of Lebanon and Linn County. I am a teacher, small business owner, and a tree grower. We have seen hundreds of Doug fir die on our property and on our neighbors' properties due to drought and heat stress. More are dying every year.

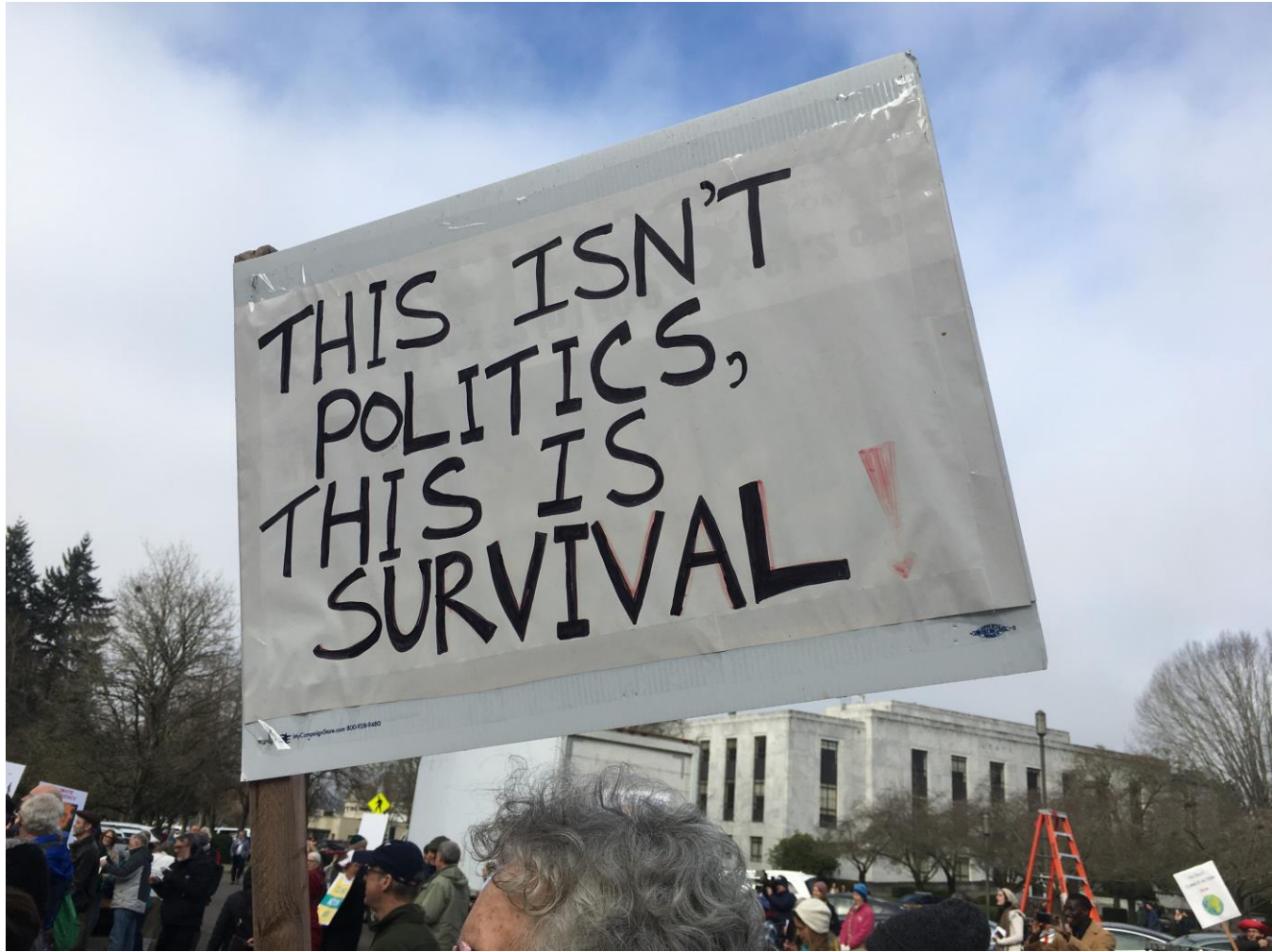
After work, I attended the hearing for HB 4167 last night, I was seated in the overflow room, and did not stay late enough to give testimony, so I would like to address my thoughts here.

I'd like you to know I also attended the Climate Rally on February 11th. I am attaching 3 photos that best sum up my feelings about the Climate Crisis.

I will reiterate that this should **not be about politics, but about survival**. As I listened to many fellow citizens wearing the Timberunity banner, I heard pleas to keep things as they are; I heard their fear of change. Well I too am afraid of change, but I know that Climate Chaos is really being fueled by fossil fuels, and we cannot return to the 1950's; we cannot simply vote drought, wildfires, and floods away. We are looking to you for leadership; I urge you to support meaningful Climate legislation now!

Many of the people against the bill were urging you to put this complicated bill to a public vote. That is not a good idea because we have already seen lopsided reporting in the Lebanon Local (in conjunction with Sweet Home's New Era) **paper which denies all the science** backing climate change. They quote Jeff Leavy, the founder of Timberunity, and board member Angelita Sanchez. They do not interview one person who supports the bill. They report heresay rather than directly interviewing Senator Peter Courtney. **They do not print any contrary letters to the editor either!** Moreover, when the state of Washington put a similar bill up for a vote, the fossil fuel industry and other corporations flooded the media with \$65 million to confuse the public and muddy the waters about cap and trade.

If we had begun to make the necessary changes 20, 30, even 40 years ago, our economy could have adapted more gradually with less pain, but our fates will be sealed if we don't act now. One way we could help people is with high depreciation deductions on their equipment, so they can afford switching to higher efficiency or even electric equipment sooner. I do know Safeway in California has been buying Tesla semis for their delivery rigs. California's economy has grown from their embracing of the Green economy. The wise thing to do is to get in on the Green technology ASAP!





Big Timber has duped  
Working Families  
into believing they are

Immune to  
CLIMATE CHANGE

SAY 'NO'

to TIMBER IMMUNITY

SAY 'YES'

to CLIMATE  
ACTION