

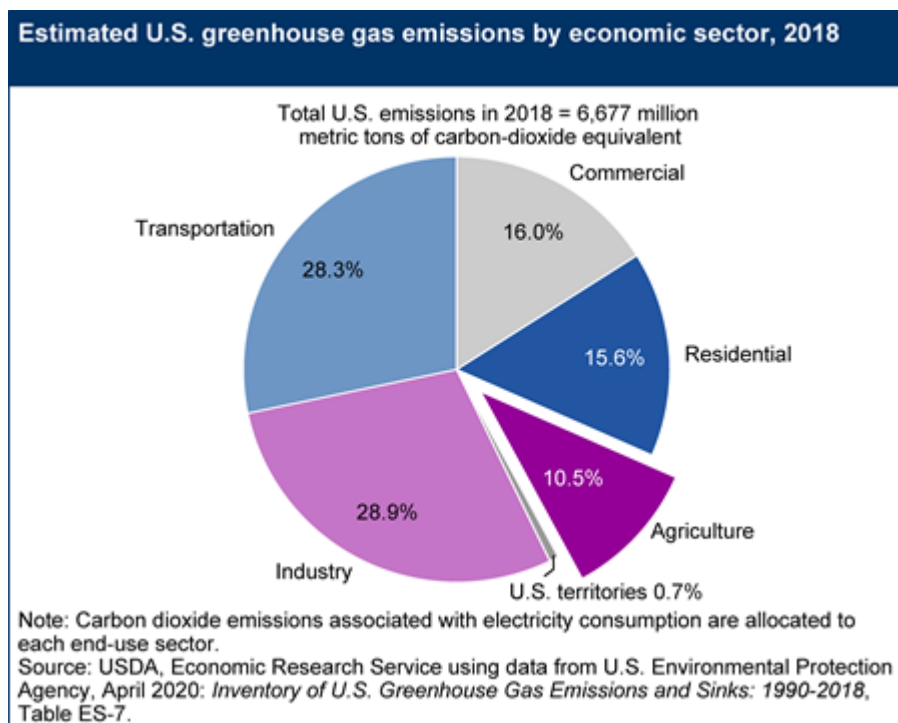
March 2, 2021

Dear Committee Members,

We are writing to you today to express our deep concerns regarding the unfair tax and administrative burden on Oregon rural Farms, Ranches and businesses that the HB 2674-1 Amendment would create. It is fundamentally unfair to saddle farm and ranch families with the cost of retrofitting Metro's fleets or cleaning up the Metro and urban airshed. Not to mention the added burden of regulatory and administrative costs for business such as ours that sell farm inputs such as nonroad diesel, equipment and other inputs to our local farms and ranches.

According to the USDA website, summarized into the chart below, the agriculture economic sector was the smallest contributor of emissions in 2018, yet this bill would place the largest tax burden on that sector. Again, a grossly unfair tax burden to the Agriculture sector. There has to be a more equitable solution to this problem. An encourage, assist and entice method of change seems to always have better results than a tax and force method. If you truly want to change greenhouse gas emissions, you're going to have to help farmers, ranchers and business equitably and fairly, rather than tax them out of business. Surely there's a better way to get all of the stakeholders to the table to work towards a more equitable solution.

Given all of the loss, heartache, economic stress and in some cases economic devastation that everyone not only in the State of Oregon but in the United States has gone through this last year it doesn't seem prudent to be pushing this amendment through the legislature at this time. We believe that there are far greater economic impacts to be considered at this time, other than unfairly singling out and taxing the Agriculture economic sector.



We sincerely appreciate your time and attention to this matter, and sincerely hope that you will not pass this amendment and instead consider a more fair and equitable solution to the greenhouse gas emission problems that our State and our Country face.

Thank you,
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