

I'm a 6th generation Oregonian who grew up on a family farm in NE Oregon. The farm provides an up-close view of how climate change is playing out in our state. It also offers a glimpse into what the future holds. One of the starkest examples is the change in water supply. Seasonal variations aside, the mountains receive less snow and more rain. The snow that does fall disappears sooner. As a state that relies on snow melt for crop irrigation, this change in water availability is a major concern. It is just one of the many challenging trends we face, and alone it should prompt us to call for swift action. The critical question is "What actions should we take?".

While there is no single solution, we should all be able to support the carbon fee and dividend proposed in this resolution. Not only does it deliver deep cuts in carbon emissions, but it achieves those cuts without dragging down our economy. It also provides a dividend to help Oregonians adapt to the rising price on carbon without suffering financially.

Transitioning away from fossil fuels is not going to be easy, but it is a necessary step if we want to avoid the devastating environmental and economic impacts we face on our current course. I support this resolution because it offers a transparent, quick and equitable way for us to make the transition.