

Dear Committee members,

I am writing in support of SJM 5. I have lived in the Rogue Valley for 31 years. I raised my children here. Eight years ago I realized that I could no longer NOT do anything about the suffering that was and would continue to be if humans continued to rely on the burning of fossil fuels. Suffering of all human, plant, and animal life on this beautiful Earth. In 2013 I decided to take action. I chose to volunteer with the local chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL). I chose CCL because I believed that a big problem needed big solutions. I wanted the U.S., the most powerful country in the world, to take the lead in transitioning from fossil fuel to clean energy. I wanted a policy with a border adjustment that would encourage other countries to take bold action. I have spent 8 years advocating for a carbon fee and dividend solution. Five of those eight years I have gone to D.C. and dialogued with Members of Congress and their staff. I believe The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act will be a powerful policy to help drive innovation and quickly lower fossil fuel emissions. It addresses the market failure that is responsible for us getting to this crisis point. It is a policy that is politically possible and durable. It's bipartisan appeal and public support (through distribution of a dividend to all citizens) will greatly impact its durability during the years that will be necessary for us to wean off of fossil fuels, and through many changes in Administrations and Congress.

Since James Hansen testified to Congress in 1988 that there was in fact a greenhouse effect caused by CO2 emissions, we have wasted precious years to turn things around. My grandchildren will be 39 and 41 in 2050. What will their lives be like? How much will they and their children be suffering? THIS is the time for our state and federal leaders to be courageous and take bold action, to give hope to the young people that want to know we are fighting for their future and doing all we can to reverse the dismal trajectory of living on Earth. Thank you for sending a clear message to Congress on behalf of the citizens of Oregon through your support of SJM 5.

Sherrill Rinehart