

From: Mickelson Anastasia
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2015 1:53 PM
To: Mickelson Anastasia
Subject: FW: Testimony in support of HB 3250

April 13, 2015

Dear Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee,

My name is Sydney Scout, I'm 21 years old, currently live in Bend, Oregon, and I'm writing to ask for your support of HB 3250, which would put a cap on carbon emissions by auctioning allowances and distribute the revenue back to Oregonians in the form of a dividend check. Because I was born, raised, and spent the first eighteen years of my life in Anchorage, Alaska, I know that a dividend will really work to help people hold polluters accountable. During these eighteen years, I received the reliable, governmentally distributed, permanent fund dividend check that comes straight from the pockets of oil companies who use our land. Thanks in large part to this check, I can say that I'll be graduating with a bachelors degree from OSU Cascades this June – completely debt free. As a millennial, I can tell you that the coexistence of my current educational and financial situations is rare.

Alaskans love our dividend checks. Because of this extra income, we're not only able to prioritize education, as I have done, but we're also able to put money back into our state's economy, afford increased costs of living that come with life in Alaska, and empower new generations of Alaskans to bear the ever-increasing financial burdens of the post-secondary education system and current job market.

Oil companies have tried to challenge our rights to the Permanent Fund Dividend (PFD), but have been met with nearly unanimous opposition among residents across the state. Whether you're from Anchorage, Seward, Fairbanks, or Juneau, your identity as an Alaskan is inextricably tied to the PFD. We trust our government, because we know they will keep their promises to us and not compromise with oil companies who don't have our best interest in mind.

Because of the positive effect Alaska's dividend has had on my life, I know that HB 3250 will work. In most other conversations about climate action, the people are asked to give something up. It's true that carbon pricing is a necessity if we want our planet to survive. Pricing carbon through a straight cap-and-trade system or carbon tax would necessarily increase gas prices, and would unfairly affect those with lower incomes who spend a higher proportion of their money on energy costs. However, the cap-and-dividend model, by giving \$500 to \$1500 annually to all Oregonians, would effectively negate this.

Adequate action on climate change requires passing long-lasting legislation that can stand up to the powerful forces of the fossil fuel industry. The only example I can think of where the people have been able to stand up, and win, against Big Oil is in my home state. As I come to fall in love with the environment and people of Oregon, I have faith that, with a dividend like Alaska's, we'd be able to give power, and money, to the people of Oregon, too. And when we do we will show the world how people, our natural world, and the economy can win a stable and prosperous future, together.

HB 3250 is Oregon's chance to hold fossil fuel companies accountable. No, they don't make money extracting carbon from Oregon soils, but they do profit by treating our skies like an open sewer. And I can tell you first-hand, once Oregonians get their carbon dividend, there'll be no going back to a free ride for polluters.

Thank you,

Sydney Scout
Bend, OR

On Apr 13, 2015, at 8:52 AM, Patrino Beth wrote:

Thank you for submitting your testimony to the House Committee on Energy and Environment. The material will be posted on the Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS) and made available to the committee members.

Beth Patrino, Committee Administrator
House Committee on Energy and Environment
Legislative Committee Services
347 State Capitol, Salem, OR 97301
503.986.1751 (direct line)

From: Sydney Scout [<mailto:aksydneyscout@gmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, April 12, 2015 10:14 PM
To: Patrino Beth
Subject: Testimony in support of HB 3250

Dear Members of the House Energy and Environment Committee,

My name is Sydney Scout, I'm 21 years old, currently live in Bend, Oregon, and I'm writing to ask for your support of HB 3250, which would put a cap on carbon emissions by auctioning allowances and distribute the revenue back to Oregonians in the form of a dividend check. Because I was born, raised, and spent the first eighteen years of my life in Anchorage, Alaska, I know that a dividend will really work. During these eighteen years, I received the reliable, governmentally distributed, permanent fund dividend check that comes straight from the pockets of oil companies who use our land. Thanks, in large part, to this check, I can say that I'll be graduating with a bachelors degree from OSU Cascades this June completely debt free. As a millennial, I can tell you that the coexistence of my current educational and financial situations is rare.

Alaskans love our dividend checks. Because of this extra income, we're not only able to prioritize education, as I have done, but we're also able to put money back into our state's economy, afford increased costs of living that come with life in Alaska, and give the next generations of Alaskans finances to aide them in the ever-increasing burdens borne upon us by the post-secondary education system and current job market. Oil companies have tried to challenge our rights to the Permanent Fund Dividend, but have been met with nearly unanimous opposition among residents across the state. Whether you're from Anchorage, Seward, Fairbanks, or Juneau, your identity as an Alaskan is

inextricably tied to the PFD. We trust our government, because we know they will keep their promises to us and not compromise with oil companies who don't have our best interest in mind.

Because of the positive effect Alaska's dividend has had on my life, I know that HB 3250 will work. I'm aware that, in most other conversations about climate change, the people are asked to give something up. A simple cap-and-trade system would bring gas prices up, and would negatively affect those with lower incomes who spend a higher proportion of their money on utilities and fuel. However, the cap-and-dividend model, by giving \$500 to \$1000 annually to all Oregonians, would effectively negate this. Climate change needs legislation that will be long-lasting and that will be able to stand up against the powerful forces of the oil industry. The only example I can think of where the people have been able to stand up, and win, against Big Oil is in my home state. However, as I come to fall in love with the environment and people of Oregon, I have faith that, with a dividend like Alaska's, we'd be able to give power, and money, to the people, too.

HB 3250 is Oregon's chance to hold fossil fuel companies accountable. No, they don't make money extracting carbon from Oregon soils, but they do profit by treating our skies like an open sewer. And I can tell you first-hand, once Oregonians get their carbon dividend, there'll be no going back to a free ride for polluters.

Thank you,
Sydney Scout

