

Chair Dembrow, Vice-Chair Olsen, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Toni Morozumi, I am a retired teacher and resident of Bend. Contemplating what to say today, I thought I would offer ideas for why this bill should not be passed:

1. It's been suggested that on a global scale, our contributions to global warming are so insignificant, why should we Oregonians be held to account? For that matter, why should any one of us walking the planet be? What did I do???

2. An inevitable rise in gas costs will hurt our pocketbooks and hit rural communities hardest.

The good people crafting this bill have diligently worked to ensure that rural and disadvantaged communities, which have historically been hit hardest by economic and environmental disasters, will be provided the allowances and support to ease these challenging transitions.

3. It will result in job loss.

Jobs are lost when fisheries collapse, when farms fail, when fires destroy whole communities, when coastal populations are displaced. With our continued inaction, more than jobs will be lost. With forward thinking, new jobs will be created -- jobs that point the way to a more sustainable world. In concrete terms, this bill helps to point that way.

4. It doesn't go far enough and lets certain industries off the hook. It goes too far, it doesn't go far enough; climate change, what climate change. If the climate is changing it's not OUR fault! We mustn't rush into things, we need more time.

This bill has been a decade -- a precious decade -- in the making. Our youth are freaking out and flummoxed by our inaction. Change is hard. Climate change promises to be really really hard. I hope these sad excuses for excuses will not be recited to our children and our grandchildren when they are suffering the consequences of our inaction, our year-after-year, decade-after-decade-inaction, when we had the now-fast-shrinking opportunity to take steps to stem the tide of ecological disaster. When we are aging and dying, and OUR VERY offspring and their kids are bearing the brunt of the effects of human displacement, rising homelessness, food shortages, species extinction, unbreathable air and undrinkable water, and ask why did you not do something when you had the chance and knew you could -- will you really look them in the eye and say, 'Well, our gas prices would have gone up??!!'

Thank you.