



The Oregon State Chamber of Commerce Urges a ‘NO’ on HB 2020B

The Oregon State Chamber of Commerce (OSCC) represents 80 local chambers of commerce and more than 27,000 local businesses in every corner of Oregon. Some OSCC members will be directly covered by the cap-and-trade regulation in HB 2020B, while many others will be impacted by costs passed along by upstream fuel and energy providers.

HB 2020B is a job killer for our local communities. Any legislation that seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions must be implemented with the least harm to the economy. This is not the case with HB 2020B. The \$1.3 billion in new taxes raised by HB 2020B, along with the 21 cents per gallon increase at the pump in the first year of the program, will hurt businesses and communities across Oregon for no discernable reduction in GHG emissions.

Cost containment is essential to ensure the long-run effectiveness of carbon reduction efforts. It is important that adequate cost controls be incorporated in order to prevent leakage (job loss) as well as to protect local businesses and communities from unacceptably high prices for fuel, natural gas, propane, and electricity. The cost controls in HB 2020B are insufficient.

HB 2020B hands over unprecedented authority to an unelected bureaucracy and will levy billions of dollars of new costs on Oregon businesses and taxpayers. HB 2020B does not include enough safeguards to keep our businesses and jobs here. It will increase the cost of gas, heating, and food for all Oregonians.

Under HB 2020B local businesses and consumers pay the ultimate price of higher energy costs to produce and deliver goods to market. We cannot continue to burden our businesses in exchange for little to no net benefit to our environment. There is another way to accomplish the state’s greenhouse gas reduction goals, but HB 2020B is not the answer.

Please Vote ‘NO’ on HB 2020B