

Southern Oregon Climate Action Now

**SOCAN**

Confronting Climate Change

<https://socan.eco>

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Co-facilitator

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Co-Chairs Dembrow and Power  
Members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

I write on behalf of some 1500 southern Oregonians who are Southern Oregon Climate Action Now to congratulate the committee on the development of HB2020 and its embodied Oregon Climate Action Plan.

Having spent many years engaged with the statewide coalition and legislators in efforts to craft and support our representatives in developing a meaningful greenhouse gas emissions reduction policy, I am now delighted to see that the legislature is stepping up to the plate to consider a bill and program that acknowledge the urgency of the times. As the recent U.N. report on species extinctions has underlined, particularly in relation to the contribution of ongoing climate change to the accelerating extinction rate, what we do today will determine the future of much of life on the planet. On a more personal anthropocentric level, of course, what we do today will determine the future livability of this planet for ourselves, our children, and grandchildren.

While HB2020 does not offer as stringent a target as we need - which is net zero emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050, the goal of **at least** 80% below the 1990 level by 2050 represents a substantial and effective declining trajectory. This trajectory is one that will provide the state with options to develop more rigorous targets as evidence dictates necessary without requiring a massive realignment of goals and without causing economic disruption.

What HB2020 provides is a program that not only assures meaningful reductions targets, but one that also acknowledges the specific needs of utilities, industry, labor and - especially - disadvantaged Oregonians occupying impacted communities, rural regions, communities of color, and the Tribes. The economic study conducted actually on this bill, rather than the farcical FTI analysis undertaken three years ago on a very different bill with very different provisions, has revealed as totally fraudulent the claims of those who argue that HB2020 will induce economic collapse. In fact, quite the

contrary. HB2020 provides us with a route to clean energy and clean air, accompanied by economic progress with more jobs and substantial savings in health care costs.

Those who balk at supporting HB2020 stand as barriers to a livable future for our planet and to an Oregon that offers its residents the kinds of benefits currently available to us.

I urge all members of the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction to support HB2020 energetically and enthusiastically. We have no time to dally in addressing this existential threat, on promoting the cause of reducing regional and global greenhouse gas emissions.

Having explored the range of programs in effect across the nation, and the globe, I am convinced that the Climate Action Program established by HB2020 would place Oregon as a nationally leader in our efforts to address the problem. HB2020 provides a role model for other states seeking to establish meaningful greenhouse gas emissions reduction policy.

I close by thanking you for your efforts on behalf of Oregonians, and all life on the planet.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Journet". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alan Journet Ph.D.  
Co-facilitator  
Southern Oregon Climate Action Now