Components of the Clean Energy Jobs Bill - House Bill 2020 B

We are hopeful that soon there will be a time of celebration for the return of a functional Senate, and that the long, hard work leading to construction of House Bill 2020 B will result in its adoption. We are coming together to voice our support for this bill. We are facing a global Climate Emergency, and we must act to remove our greenhouse gas emissions NOW!

HB 2020 B has been amended and enhanced over the past 3 years in response to issues with other Cap and Trade programs globally. In addition, the Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction listened to input from throughout the state and improved the program design:

Investments must consider best available science and best economic information. There are no exemptions for any major industrial polluters. Manufacturing facilities are charged only for 5% of their greenhouse gas emissions for the first 4 years of the program to allow for adoption of pollution-reducing technology.

The Climate Investment Fund allocates 10% of revenue to eligible Indian tribes. 40% is put to work for impacted communities, defined as rural and coastal communities, and areas with high concentrations of low-income, historically disadvantaged households, high unemployment and linguistic isolation, factors related to housing and educational attainment, and negative health impacts from pollution. Some examples:

- Oregon will not allow “offset” options for industrial manufacturers whose pollution impacts local communities. Offset projects must prioritize benefits to impacted communities, and are required to be quantifiable, verifiable and enforceable.
- If the Oregon Supreme Court allows, revenue can be used to retrofit or replace diesel truck engines and farming equipment to lower emissions and to reduce risk to farmworker health.
- Works with and acknowledges our Clean Fuels Standard and Renewable Portfolio Standard to bring our emissions down to meet our goals and to not penalize energy companies that are regulated under these programs.
- 20% of Climate Investment Fund will be used to benefit projects in natural and working lands to promote adaptation through projects to address ocean acidification, agricultural efficiency, and carbon sequestration in forests, agricultural practices and the sea.
- The Just Transition Program will aid workers displaced by climate change or by climate policy and support job creation and training.
- Companion bills allow reimbursement to low income Oregonians throughout the state for excess cost of gasoline due to the program.

Come and celebrate with us and all of our partners who have worked hard to refine and adopt this bill. Let us begin to address the Climate Emergency!