

Cap and Trade Talking Points

It Will Decimate Oregon's Industrial Base

- As the vast majority of Oregon's industries are carbon-based, they will be hammered under House Bill 2020.
- Manufacturing, which is a mainstay of the working and middle class, will be faced with the prospect of cutting back on its labor force as it struggles to comply with the onerous requirements of the Climate Action Program (CAP).
- For those industries that cannot "keep up" with the emissions benchmarks, they will be faced with the prospect of going out of business or moving their operations to another state.

It Will Significantly Increase the Cost of Living for Working Class Families and Individuals

- Large corporations and businesses will respond to increased costs under CAP by passing on the costs to consumers.
- For those struggling to make ends meet and those attempting to work their way up the economic ladder and enter the middle class, they can expect higher gas, utility, and grocery bills.
- Northwest Natural Gas [estimates](#) that in the first year of implementation of the CAP, its customers will pay an **additional 11%** on their gas bill. By 2040, a NW Natural Gas customer will be paying **53% more** on their gas bill.

It Will Transfer a Massive Amount of Power to the Executive Branch

- House Bill 2020 will give the Executive Branch and its agencies and departments tremendous power over Oregon's economy.
- The Director the Carbon Policy Office, the Carbon Policy Office, the Public Utility Commission, the Housing and Community Services Department, the Department of Energy, the Department of Administrative Services, the Environmental Quality Commission, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Governor can "**adopt rules and take any actions**" before CAP goes into effect on January 1, 2021 to implement the contents of the bill.
- This will give executive branch agencies and departments a year and a half to create laws not voted on by the Legislature as it relates to Cap & Trade.

It is a Huge Tax Increase

- While Cap & Trade will have little to no impact in reducing global carbon emissions and will not reverse the effects of climate change in Oregon, it will generate more revenue for state coffers. Indeed, the core function of the Oregon Climate Action Program is to tax Oregon's economy and feed Democrats' insatiable appetite for more and more revenue.

It Will Unleash Cronyism

- We've seen this before: The [BETC](#) (Business Energy Tax Credit Scandal) failure revealed that promised green jobs never materialized after millions and millions spent. While would this time be any different?
- Framed by supporters as a "Clean Energy Jobs" bill, CAP will be a boon to green energy interests. Assisted by the heavy hand of the Brown Administration, costly renewables will be subsidized with revenues generated from Cap & Trade.
- An industry that has otherwise struggled without government support and subsidies will be given "preferred status" on the dime of taxpayers. That isn't fair.