



From the Office of
REPRESENTATIVE JACK ZIKA

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE JACK ZIKA
HOUSE DISTRICT 53
Contact: Jack Zika, (541) 279-5626,
RepJackZika@oregonlegislature.gov

Governor Kate Brown Admits Flying in Private Jet to Give Speech on Carbon Policy

Salem, Ore. – State Representative Jack Zika today released a letter ([attached](#)) from Governor Kate Brown in which she discusses flying on a private jet from the Willamette Valley to Sunriver to give a speech about the state’s carbon policy.

“At the request of the Oregon Forest Industries Council, I was in Sunriver on October 14th to discuss the state’s carbon policy with their members I shared the aircraft with executives of the timber industry who were also traveling to the conference.”

Representative Zika, who represents Sunriver, sent a letter to Governor Brown ([attached](#)) dated October 16th asking the Governor to confirm her travel via private jet and inquiring about the Governor’s office process, if any, to evaluate the use of private jets given their significant carbon emissions. Representative Zika received Governor Brown’s letter, dated October 24th, which was included with his office mail upon his return to the Capitol last week for legislative days.

“Governor Brown wants Oregonians to pay much more to travel even by automobiles, which emit far less greenhouse gases than private jets. My constituents understandably wonder why the Governor wants them to sacrifice and to change their travel habits when she chooses to travel in the most carbon-intensive manner available to her,” Zika said.

Governor Brown championed a cap and trade bill in the 2019 legislative session that would have increased fuel prices by at least 20 cents per gallon in the first year, and more in future years, in an effort to encourage Oregonians to drive less or to purchase more fuel-efficient vehicles. She and Democratic legislative leaders have signaled their desire to pursue a cap and trade bill again in the 2020 legislative session, a bill that would fundamentally change Oregonian’s lives overnight with its emergency clause removing their individual right to vote on the matter in a ballot.

“Carbon hypocrisy from the Governor will make cap and trade an even harder sell in the upcoming session” Zika said.

“With her using pressing obligations as an excuse for using a jet for her travels, Governor Brown fails to realize that most Oregonians have pressing obligations to their families, work, farms, or community as well. Now their only form of transport is under siege as the impending Corporate Activities Tax take effect of January 1st, and Cap and Trade still set to rear its head during the upcoming short session, increasing prices at the pump further. This stacking of taxes is a significant financial burden on rural communities and will create a more significant economic divide between rural and urban Oregon,” Zika said.

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House District 53 includes the communities of Redmond, Tumalo, Sunriver, and portions of Bend and unincorporated Deschutes County. Zika and his wife Zanthel live in Redmond with their two young children. Zika is a former City of Redmond Planning Commissioner and serves as the President-Elect of the Central Oregon Association of Realtors.